

August 20 by-election in Sands constituency

A parliamentary by-election in the Sands constituency in Northern Ireland, to elect a successor to Robert Sands, the dead hunger striker and Provisional IRA gunman, is to be held on August 20.

The writ for the election is to be moved in the Commons on Tuesday by Mr Dafydd Thomas, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, who has had assurances that neither the Government nor the Labour Party will block his move.

Sands, who was serving a 14-year jail sentence for possessing firearms, was elected to the Commons on April 10 by a narrow majority of 1,446 votes over Mr Harry West, the Official Unionist candidate.

He was unable to take his seat, and died on May 4 after 66 days without food.

Mr Thomas was approached by supporters of Sands and of a B-block campaign soon after his death to initiate a fresh by-election. But the Government decided to forestall the election of another hunger-striker, with the certainty of more adverse publicity worldwide, by hurrying through the Parliament the Representation of the People Act.

The disqualification from membership of the Commons, or from nomination for election to the Commons, any convicted person serving a sentence of more than one year. The Act received Royal Assent on July 2.

Mr Thomas and Mr Ernest Roberts, Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, yesterday told Mr Francis Pym, leader of the House of Commons, that they intended to move the writ for a by-election on August 13.

Mr Pym consulted Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of

By Julian Taviland, Political Editor

State for Northern Ireland, and asked the MPs to wait a week, so that the marching season in Northern Ireland, with its increased political tension, notably the march on August 12 of the Apprentice Boys of Derry, would be over.

Mr Thomas said they agreed to this on condition that the Government would not try to use its Commons majority to prevent the writ.

He said, yesterday: "I was keen to see that the election would not be delayed beyond the normal period of three months, and that normal British and Irish democratic procedures were followed."

Labour's policy statement on Northern Ireland, to be published later this week, will not contain a promise that a future Labour government would arrange a referendum to ascertain the views of people in Ulster on unification with the republic (George Clark writes).

On a motion by Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool, Walton, the party executive yesterday decided by 19 votes to 7 to delete the reference to a referendum in its place was inserted a pledge that the Labour Party will actively campaign to win consent among the population in Northern Ireland for peaceful unification.

Opposition to the policy statement was led by Mr Sam McCusker, leader of the National Union of Seamen, seconded by Mr Alan Hadden, of the bipharmaceutical union.

Mr McCusker said he did not believe there would be consent in Northern Ireland for a united Ireland. The people there sent representatives to Westminster and if there were to be a referendum it should extend to the election of the whole of the United Kingdom.

Mr Hadden thought the policy statement did not take

enough notice of the viewpoint of "protestant members of the working class".

An amendment proposed by Mr Frank Allam, MP for Salford, East, in favour of encouraging the formation of a new union-based Labour Party in Northern Ireland, was approved by 10 votes to nine.

Officials at the Northern Ireland Office were carefully considering a statement from Mr Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Féin, last night which appeared to indicate a change of emphasis in the demands for direct negotiation to end the hunger strikes at the Maze prison (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

With the condition of Kieran Doherty and Kevin Lynch continuing to worsen as they enter the sixty-third and sixty-second day of their fasts respectively, the interpretation of his remarks could prove crucial.

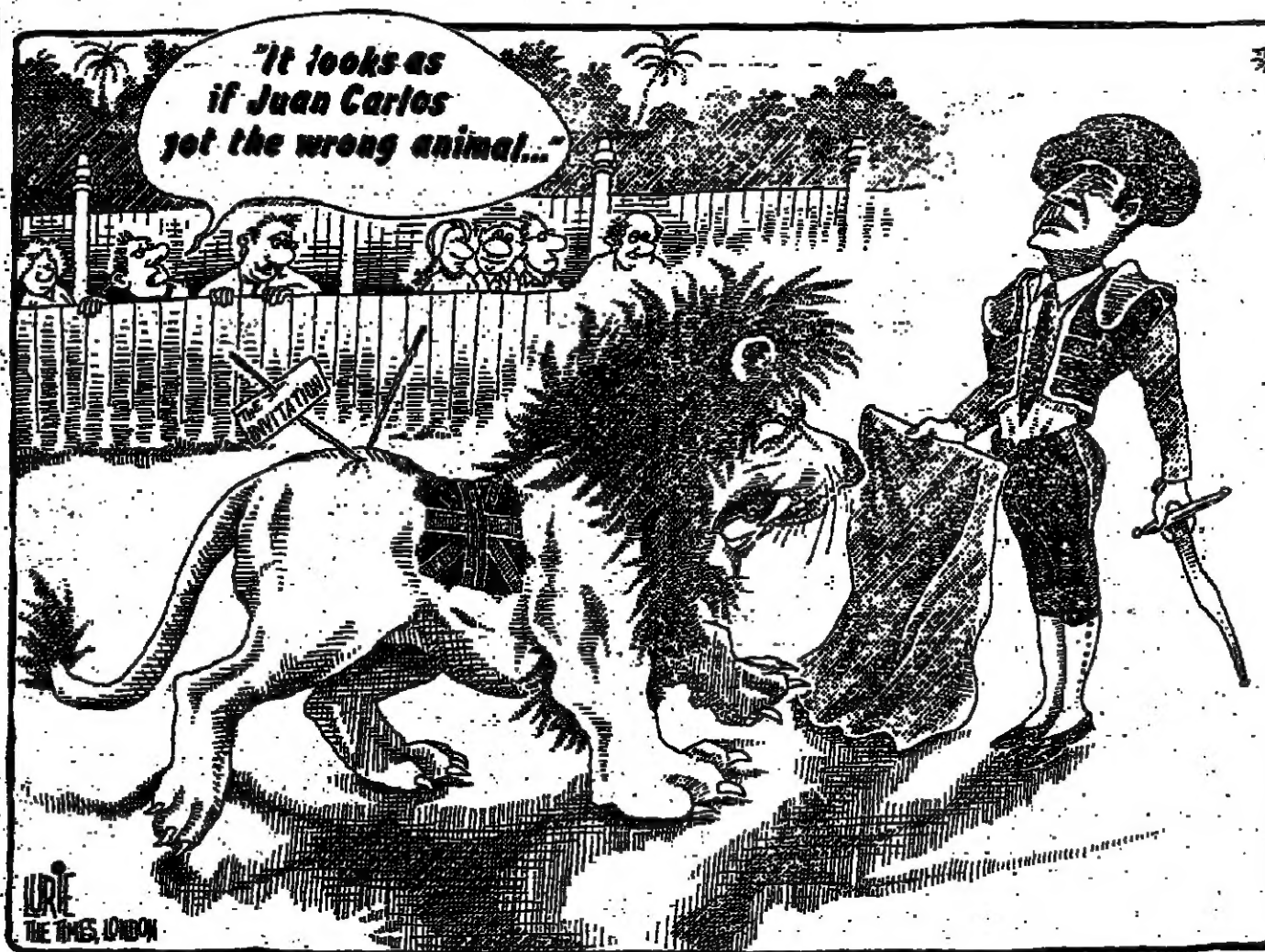
They were being seen as a final attempt to break the deadlock.

Referring to the British Government's frequently repeated offer to clarify to prisoners what would happen when the fast ends, Mr Adams called for the Government to make a public statement elaborating the plans.

The Irish Government was last night accused of "doing a Pontius Pilate act" after its statement that it will make no immediate further effort to resolve the Maze prison crisis (Tim Jones writes from Dublin).

The accusation was made by the National B-Block Committee after Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, said he was satisfied with the British Government's action to resolve the deadlock.

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Royal wrangle: The views from London and Madrid

Mystery of Whitehall advice to the Palace

Spain 'told of visit only last weekend'

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office did its best yesterday to play down the suggestion that a major diplomatic row had been caused by its advice to the Prince of Wales over starting his honeymoon from Gibraltar.

While protests flooded in from Madrid, officials maintained that there was no evidence of a serious breach in diplomatic relations with Spain.

King Juan Carlos's decision to cancel his visit to the royal wedding was described as a gesture, which evidently the Spanish head of state felt obliged to make.

The implication was that, despite the strong feelings aroused, Anglo-Spanish relations ought to continue, at the official level, perfectly well.

The mystery yesterday was over the nature of the Foreign Office advice to Buckingham Palace on the matter. As is usual with all journeys undertaken by the Prince, the Foreign Office was consulted.

But the advice given must be always remain confidential.

What seemed clear was that the dispute blew up very suddenly. When Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, met the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor José Pedro Pérez-Llorca, in Brussels last week, the Gibraltar issue was not mentioned.

Instead, there was a discussion of Spain's candidacy for membership of the European Community.

The first that Lord Carrington heard of the impending storm, it appears, was when an urgent message reached him at the summit conference in Ottawa.

The advice to the Palace no doubt took into account Spanish sensitivity about Gibraltar. But it may be that the Foreign Office took the view that the start of a honeymoon was a non-political event and that if it suited the royal couple to pick up the yacht at Gibraltar, little harm was likely to be done.

The alternative view, as put out by the Spanish press, that Britain was deliberately seeking to put pressure on Spain over carrying out an agreement on Gibraltar, seems wide of the mark. British ministers have shown much understanding and even sympathy for the reluctance of the Spanish Government to implement the Lisbon agreement on Gibraltar.

Under the agreement, signed in April 1980, Spain agreed to lift the restrictions against Gibraltar and Britain agreed to open negotiations on the future of Gibraltar. Both sides maintained their positions of principle.

It was confirmed yesterday that Prince Charles will play polo for England II against Spain at Great Windsor Park on Sunday despite King Juan Carlos's decision.

Spain made "urgent and serious attempts at every level" to convince the British Government that the inadvisability of the Prince of Wales beginning his honeymoon in Gibraltar, the Spanish Foreign Ministry said in Madrid yesterday.

The ministry denied that any formal protest over the decision had been made, but it referred to the journey to Gibraltar as "inopportune, gratuitously inconsiderate and mistaken".

The Spanish Government was not told about the Gibraltar visit until last weekend and Señor José Pedro Pérez-Llorca, Spanish Foreign Minister, personally appealed to - highly placed British Government officials saying that the visit was a diplomatic error and could provoke a setback in relations, according to reliable sources.

The British Embassy had no comment on the dispute which arose after King Juan Carlos rejected his invitation to the wedding.

The attempts by Spain to convince Britain to cancel or play down the Gibraltar visit, included contacts between representatives of the Zarzuela Palace, the residence of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia, and Buckingham Palace.

When it became clear in Madrid that the Spanish authorities were unable to con-

Science report

Mountains that move from sea to land

By the Staff of "Nature"

Many of the mountains on the sea-bed will one day become mountains on land, according to four geophysicists writing in the American journal, *Science*.

Evidence, they say, is accumulating to suggest that some of the big mountain ranges in the world may be made from piles of submarine mountains which have travelled thousands of miles over many millions of years to their present resting places.

High plateaux under the sea are still on the move, between two and 10 centimetres a year, and it is likely that one day they too will be slammed up against the edge of continents to form more high land.

That latest idea is rather different from conventional wisdom on mountain building. Geophysicists have thought that many mountain ranges are created by the crumpling of the earth's crust near places where two large segments of the crust, called tectonic plates, meet.

But Dr Z Ben-Avram and colleagues from Stanford University and the United States Geological Survey say that simple crumpling, as one plate slides underneath another, is unlikely to be solely responsible for the world's major mountain chains.

What is more likely is that the movement of the plates, over many millions of years, brings elevated sections of crust to the plate boundaries where they get stuck.

That, at least, is what appears to have happened in the mountain chains along the north-western coast of America. The idea emerged from extensive geological surveys of the region revealed that the mountains were made of several very different types of rock that could not all have come from the American continent.

They had probably originated as much as a thousand miles away in the Pacific. The most likely building material, especially for mountains on plate boundaries, is oceanic crust, a type of rock that they had probably originated as much as a thousand miles away in the Pacific.

Precisely how the submarine plateaux become detached from the ocean plate when they meet a continent and precisely how they travel still remains something of a mystery.

Nature, Science, vol 213, p47 (1981).

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Pickets gather in Edinburgh

Lesson for Heseltine in Scottish clash

By David Walker

This morning members of the Scottish Labour Party's executive and of the several public service trade unions will gather outside St Andrew's House in Edinburgh to picket Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, on behalf of the prerogatives of Lothian Regional Council.

They want the repeal of the recent Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act. Under it Mr Younger has moved to withhold some £77m of Lothian's basic 1981-82 budget of £23m because he has been empowered to judge the region's spending plans excessive and unreasonable.

The pickets are taking part in no more regional drama. For the playlet of Younger versus Lothian, running in Edinburgh for most of this year, has something to tell Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment and custodian of local authorities in England and Wales.

That is: by allowing an argument between mighty central government and political enthusiasts on the left of the Labour Party to develop into a constitutional issue, you box yourself into a tight little corner.

Mr Younger's corner is this: either Lothian's ruling Labour group decides when it meets next Monday to compromise and reduce its expenditure - £25m, savings this year might be acceptable - or the Scottish Office moves into the uncharted territory of default, direct rule and picking up a scale that will dwarf today's.

Lothian's story is similar to that of several big city councils in England. Based on Edinburgh and the old Midlothian, the region has not gelled since reorganisation in the mid 1970s; Conservative Edinburgh pays the rate bill and feels put upon by socialists from the industrial hinterland.

Since 1979, Lothian region has shaped up for an ideological fight with the Scottish Office, using the rate support



Union mood hardens against deal

By David Felton

Labour Repetition displayed their dissatisfaction with the Government's latest pay offer at various meetings around the country, with one moderate union reporting that voting was running 60-40 for rejecting the offer, calling an all-out national strike.

But only a few meetings have been held so far, and a clear picture of the unions' voting patterns will probably not emerge until the weekend.

The Land Revenue Staff Federation, which before the five-month dispute started, was always regarded as a moderate union, has held six meetings out of 70 and has recorded votes of 2,267 against the offer and 1,536 in favour of acceptance.

Yesterday morning's meeting in Bristol by more than 700 RSF members, who voted 432-279 for all-out action, is regarded by officials as a good indicator, because during the dispute Bristol's votes have closely reflected the national trend. RSF members on Merseyside voted 1,280-764 for strike action, but that decision was not unexpected because the area has a tradition of militancy.

The few meetings held by the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, have apparently supported an all-out strike, but equally the handful of meetings held so far by members of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants have been heavily in favour of accepting the offer.

The Government's proposals also require an orderly return to work, a speedy resumption of normal working with union cooperation, clearing backlogs of work and the normal forfeit of payments for periods where individual civil servants were on strike. There would be no punishment for union members who have taken action.

Meanwhile in the High Court yesterday, the Intervention Board for Agricultural Products was ordered by a judge to pay £4m in subsidies to exporters. The board has been unable to pay EEC subsidies, known as export refunds, compensation amounts, to 250 exporters.

Bridesmaid and bride brave the wind and rain for dress rehearsals



It was a day of rehearsals yesterday for Lady Diana Spencer and her bridesmaids. Above, India Hicks, aged 14, one of the bridesmaids, arriving at St Paul's Cathedral to learn her part in next Wednesday's proceedings. Earlier, Lady Diana went to the workshop of David and Elizabeth Emanuel for probably the final fitting of her wedding dress. She is leaving their premises in Brook Street, London.

The Dean of St Paul's is ignoring the razzmatazz

By John Witherow

The trickiest question the Very Rev Alan Brunskill Webster has faced since it was announced that St Paul's Cathedral would stage the royal wedding came from a Brazilian journalist.

"How is it," he asked, "that a bankrupt island can spend so much time and energy on a royal wedding?"

You do not, however, become the eighty-eighth Dean of St Paul's and sit beneath a portrait of such an illustrious predecessor as John Donne to be lost for words in the face of a direct assault.

The Dean took a deep breath and plunged into a speech saying the wedding was about relationships "and nothing in the world is more important than human relationships".

Whether the journalist was convinced by the explanation is perhaps known only to his readers in Rio de Janeiro; but it was delivered by the dean without a trace of sentimentality and fairly represents his attitude towards the marriage.

He, too, is not taken in by the razzmatazz - although he is aware of the symbolic importance of the wedding - and he is acutely conscious of the ceremony's private significance to the couple.

Mr Webster, who is 62 and has a shock of grey hair and a pleasant parchment face reminiscent of W. H. Auden, came to St Paul's four years ago after being Dean of Norwich Cathedral for seven years.

His reputation was that of an innovator, or as he calls it, an enabler, a man who enables things to be done.

While at Norwich that involved setting up a night shelter for the homeless, at St Paul's it was creating an "open church".

The only danger he foresaw of holding the wedding in the cathedral was that "there will be so many crown heads and ambassadors that it will look very establishment".

But at the same time he saw it as an ideal opportunity to involve other churches and it was his suggestion that led to the inclusion of Roman Catholics and members of the Free Churches in the service. His main regret is that there will be no black clergyman or a woman taking part.

What he did not foresee was the financial wrangling the cathedral would become involved in with the television companies over fees: St Paul's is expecting a £100,000 deficit this year and wants the companies to foot some of the bill for hidden costs, which it believes could be as high as £40,000.

The cathedral has certainly been gearing up for months for the event. For the first time in eight years Sir Christopher Wren's building is free of scaffolding for the external restoration.

It is after all, the first time that a royal marriage has taken place in the present St Paul's. Prince Arthur, the eldest son of Henry VII, was married to the ill-fated Catherine of

IN BRIEF

Health chief demoted

Mr Peter Biddulph, who has been health administrator for Bromsgrove and Redditch District, in the West Midlands, for the past seven years, was demoted yesterday from his £15,000 a year post after a series of hospital blunders had occurred in his area.

He said yesterday that the mistakes were made at the 350-bed Bromsgrove General Hospital and were mainly medical and nursing errors. They included a boy who was given a stomach operation when he was suffering from an ear complaint.

Radioactive leak

A leak of low level radioactive liquid, has been covered at the Harwell atomic research station, Oxfordshire, the Atomic Energy Authority reported yesterday.

The leak was from a ceramic pipe taking water used to wash down radioactive materials to a storage tank. There was no danger to staff or public, the authority said.

MP to retire

Mr James Johnson, Labour MP for Kingston upon Hull, West, who had a house-maker fitted 18 months ago, is to retire at the next general election. He is aged 72, and had a majority of 8,160 at the last general election.

Absconder surrenders

William Wilkins, a Broadmoor patient who slipped away from two nurses on a day trip to Brighton two weeks ago, gave himself up yesterday at Worthing. Wilkins, aged 35, was sent to the top-security hospital 22 years ago after being convicted of murder.

Overtaking danger

One in seven drivers risk their lives to overtake, a survey by a unit at Cranfield Institute of Technology's School of Automotive Studies in Bedfordshire revealed.

Fourteen per cent of drivers were found to overtake with less than the minimum safe distance in hand.

Costly acquittal

Edward Willetts, aged 33, an assistant governor attached to Northallerton jail in North Yorkshire, was acquitted by a jury of shoplifting yesterday but the judge refused to grant legal costs. He has to pay half his costs, believed to be more than £3,000.

Plowright returns

Joan Plowright, whose severe throat infection has prevented her appearing in the new production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* at the National Theatre in London, July 9, is expected to return by the middle of next month.

GREENPEACE BOAT HIT

Greenpeace volunteers yesterday abandoned their attempt to prevent the dumping of almost 3,000 barrels of radioactive waste in the Atlantic after their launch was damaged.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, United Kingdom director of the environmental group, said the protest was called off when a concrete-filled barge, weighing about a ton and containing waste, landed on the launch and put an engine out of action.

He accused the crew of the Gem, the waste-carrying ship on charter to the Atomic Energy Authority, of heavy-handedness.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

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Please help. Every compassionate gift will be warmly acknowledged.

Reverend Mother

Robots may tame us yet, Mensa chief predicts

From Tony Samstag, Cambridge

Members of Mensa, the international society of highly intelligent persons, were presented yesterday with a vision of a future in which they might be kept as pets by their own robots.

Mr Olive Sinclair, the micro-electronics pioneer and chairman of the British branch of the organization, opened a four-day symposium on science and technology at Queen's College, Cambridge, with a mind-numbing catalogue of predictions.

A few years ago it took one of the world's largest computers to play a modest game of chess, and now a chess pocket-size toy can do the same," he said.

"Each decade brings a 300-fold increase in the complexity available for a given cost or, indeed, size. At that rate machines of economic size will exceed the complexity of the human brain between about AD2010 and 2020."

"Sadly, whatever we do to enhance our powers we can also do to the robots, or they can do to themselves, and they are likely to be faster thinkers than we are. Perhaps they will be kind-enough to keep us as pets."

A one-centimetre cube fully packed with data could contain more books than mankind had so far produced, he said.

"It may well become possible to pack data this tightly in recoverable form and then to implant it and couple it to the human brain in such a way that the mind can access it."

"We may then have at our command all human knowledge and we might even learn to use it."

The cost of the new technology, he emphasized, had been falling at least as rapidly as its capability had evolved.

Mr Sinclair foresaw the day when every office desk would have its own computer, and when video tapes and television screens would replace books in schools. Doctors would launch "pill-sized craft" into the bodies of their patients, exploring at will, depositing medicines, or wielding infinitesimal surgical tools to a microscopic accuracy.

Cars would drive themselves at more than 200mph and their built-in computers would tell the driver when and where servicing was necessary, and how much it should cost.

Mr Sinclair thought the greatest breakthrough would probably come from enthusiastic amateurs, hundreds of thousands of whom would soon have access to computers. Robots permitting, of course.

مكتبة الأهل

TUC seeks more inner city aid from Thatcher

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

TUC leaders are to seek a meeting with the Prime Minister to press their demand for a £500m increase in urban aid and immediate action to halt decline in inner cities.

If, as union leaders expect, Mrs Thatcher agrees to see them, it will be the first such meeting since the largely abortive talks on economic and industrial policies held last October at the TUC's request.

Although the TUC General Council's decision follows directly from its own policy for regenerating inner cities, union leaders are likely also to renew their call for a general change of economic course by the Government.

A strongly worded statement approved by the General Council yesterday called on the Government to demonstrate its unequivocal commitment to rebuilding the crumbling physical and social fabric of our cities.

It added: "Measures to restore public order and protect the police from physical danger, necessary as they are, must not be used as a smokescreen to conceal the fundamental problems that underlie the current crisis."

The statement added that the need to maintain public order should not be distorted to rationalize repressive measures. Such measures would only exacerbate social tensions when what was needed was the rebuilding of confidence in community relations.

The General Council claimed that the statistics for unemployed school leavers, revealed in brutal starkness on Tuesday, vividly depicted the level of the crisis.

Concern was again expressed today's meeting about the use of the Special Patrol Group, which the TUC wants to see disbanded, the prospect of a new Riot Act, and any increase in police powers.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said that opposition had been voiced to any move which would like the first steps towards a paramilitary organization to bring rioters under control.

Nevertheless, some TUC leaders are apparently hoping that a discussion of urban problems with the Prime Minister could bear more fruit.

Mr Murray said that although the unions had at their previous meeting with Mrs Thatcher warned of possible unrest because of government policies, they were not going to Downing Street in the spirit of "we told you so."

He said that the visit by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to Liverpool perhaps meant that the Government was beginning to think seriously about the problem.

Black community leaders told Mr Heseltine yesterday that they were not content to discuss the problems of Merseyside until the Chief Constable,

Mr Kenneth Oxford, resigned or was dismissed (John Young writes from Liverpool).

At a one-and-a-half-hour meeting in Toxteth, scene of the recent riots, members of the Liverpool Defence Committee insisted that the attitude of the police to local people, and to blacks in particular, was the overriding issue. To try to steer the discussion to the other topics, like unemployment or bad housing, was evasion.

Mr Heseltine, after repeating that he was in Liverpool to listen and to make instant judgments, said it would be totally wrong for him to try to trample on the prerogative of Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary.

After the meeting, committee members said that Mr Heseltine had declined to answer questions, insisting that it was his task to listen. He had wanted to know how and why the riots started and they had told him that it was because the police were "an occupying force."

In contrast, Mr Heseltine said after the meeting that he did not feel the particular issue of the police was of paramount importance: "I feel that there is a range of other issues that ought to be discussed."

Once again he complained of his dilemma in that before he came here he had been urged to listen to what people had to say. Now everybody was wanting to make instant decisions.

The second phase of Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Brixton disturbances in April will begin on September 2 and is expected to last about a week, it was announced yesterday (Lucy Hodges writes).

The public hearing into the underlying causes of the riot will be held at Church House, Westminster, and will look at the national picture, focusing on the policing of multiracial areas like Brixton.

Lord Scarman told *The Times* that he did not have any arrangements as yet to visit Toxteth in Liverpool or Moss Side, Manchester, where there have been riots recently. But he said he was not discounting the possibility of such visits.

Most of phase two of the inquiry will be taken up with written evidence. More than 170 submissions have so far been received.

But Lord Scarman will hear oral evidence from a senior Metropolitan Police witness about policy issues and will be addressed by the seven barristers representing community groups and others. The Commission for Racial Equality will also be represented.

Compulsory few policemen, revealing racial prejudices and intolerance, bring the whole force into disrepute, the Methodist Church Division of Social Responsibility says in its evidence to the Scarman inquiry. The force as a whole is not to blame (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).



Mr Graham Parker enjoying the heavy and persistent rain correctly forecast for Britain yesterday.

Staunch defence of a gloomy outlook

By David Nicholson-Lord

The men of the Meteorological Office yesterday delivered a sober rebuke to accusations that they do not smile enough when giving the bad news to the viewing nation. The British weather, they said, was no laughing matter.

Mr Graham Parker, one of the longest serving of all television weathermen, declared sternly: "We are civil servants. We are there to do a job, not to make personalities of ourselves."

Mr Bill Giles, who broadcast regularly until last year but now appears once a month, added: "We probably get more facts in a 60-second weather forecast than a 20-minute news bulletin."

It is terribly difficult to smile when you are concentrating desperately.

If the call by Mr Kenneth Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings, for a new breed of "happier-looking chaps" to tell us about the depression meets with little response it will be largely because of the unique circumstances of the job.

Seasoned television meteorologists explained the pitfalls yesterday. They include the brevity and totally unscripted nature of the bulletins, the tendency for news to arrive at the last minute and the many grem-lins lurking in BBC studios for the gallant few still performing live broadcasts.

Cables can entrap the hapless Mr man. Ink can be upset. Mr Parker once attempted a last-minute adjustment to his isobars, split a saucerful and addressed the nation with the ink trickling down his trouser legs.

Mr Parker, chairman of a Surrey Scout group, believes a gang show training is essential.

Grimacing weathermen also excite frequent letters of complaint, especially when they have a grim tale to tell.

In the face of such adversity, the weathermen valiantly maintain an informal house-rule. "You watch," Mr Giles said. "We always smile at the end."

Forecast, back page

New union fund will tie Labour spending

By Our Labour Correspondent

Senior union leaders agreed yesterday to establish a special fund which will significantly increase their influence on Labour Party spending.

The decision to raise by voluntary levy a central fund firmly under the unions' control comes after a meeting earlier this month at which affiliated unions rejected a request for an immediate 10p per head increase in affiliation fees. That would have raised an extra £630,000 for the party.

A meeting of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory yesterday agreed that the prime targets for such a fund, which will be drawn on only with union approval, should be better local organisation, political education, and the financing of election campaigns.

In two concessions to the party, the meeting agreed to examine the level to which affiliation fees might be increased and to co-opt ex-officio onto TULV the chairman, treasurer and general secretary.

Nevertheless, the move reflects a belief among senior union leaders that the financial management of the party by the national executive has proved seriously inadequate.

And it comes, moreover, at a time when a number of union leaders are making concerted efforts to maximize their influence on the party's policy.

Union leaders are thought to be considering approval for an increase in affiliation fees of about 5p per head.

SELF-STUDY FOR PUPILS URGED

Greater use of self-study methods by pupils in schools was strongly advocated by the Council for Educational Technology in evidence to the Commons select committee on education and science yesterday.

The council, which studies the development of new learning systems, said that self-study techniques had got a bad name because of the amount of inadequate individual work sheets being used in schools.

Stern tells bankruptcy court about mortgage

The investigation into the luxury lifestyle of William Stern, the world's biggest bankrupt, with debts of £118m, began yesterday with the question: "Who pays the mortgage?"

The former property tycoon, who is applying for discharge from his 1978 bankruptcy, lives in a magnificent house worth more than £300,000 in West Heath Avenue, Golders Green, north-west London. It belongs to the Edmund Stern Settlement, a trust set up by his late father, and it is full of paintings, antiques and luxurious furnishings, also owned by the trust.

Mr Stern, aged 48, now a property consultant, said the mortgage of about £5,500 a year is paid by the settlement.

"So to that extent it is a subsidy to you," remarked Mr John O'Reilly, the Official Receiver.

It is indeed, replied Mr Stern, whose assets have so far realized more than £220,000.

He revealed that in the three years since the bankruptcy he had earned fees totalling £76,750 from three companies. He has paid £19,423 tax and, under business expenses, his net income had been about £250 a week.

In addition he had received gifts or subsidies from relatives totalling about £41,000.

When one of his daughters married, he paid £15,000 towards the cost and the bridegroom's parents paid the rest.

Mr Stern said he has two daughters and three sons to support and has a big house to run.

From his £250 a week and the subsidies he had paid £13,150 for the benefit of creditors; in support of his discharge application he was offering a further £55,000, which would be paid as to £25,000 by his mother and brother and the balance by annual instalments of £10,000.

His discharge application, which is opposed by three creditors—Keyser Ullman, the Crown Agents and the First National Bank of Chicago—was adjourned until tomorrow.

Prior backs package to cut jobless

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, conceded yesterday that mounting unemployment put strains on society. But he insisted that the Government was willing to ease the problem and help those worst affected.

In a speech to the Engineering Employers Federation, Mr Prior mentioned his West German-style £1,000m package of measures to reduce unemployment.

Under his scheme every school-leaver would be guaranteed a job, further education or a place on the Youth Opportunities Programme.

Mr Prior said: "Unemployment is now unacceptably high. Continuing levels of this magnitude place strains on society which we cannot fully measure. Nobody disputes that."

"This Government has shown itself willing to spend a large amount to help those worst hit during this difficult period and thus ease the social strain."

He said Britain's record on training was "pretty dismal" and repeatedly compared Britain with West Germany, where 70 per cent of school-leavers go on to furthering. In Britain the figure is 24 per cent.

"There are not enough training opportunities for adults. For too long we have treated training and education as a once-and-for-all experience at the start of life."

"We all have a part to play. Training demands an investment of time and money by the employer who will reap the benefits from his employees later."

A trainee should be prepared to accept relatively lower earnings while he or she is training for a better future career.

"Government must be ready to intervene where necessary to ensure adequate training opportunities for all."

Mr Prior came under further pressure from Tory backbenchers last night to legislate in the next session of Parliament to curb the legal immunity of trade unions (Our Political Staff writes).

Although the House of Commons select committee on employment split along party lines in its response to Mr Prior's green paper on immunity, the Conservative majority, representing a broad span of the party, was unanimous in proposing new laws on the locked shop, the secret ballot, retribution of union funds and other issues.

GIVE JOBS NOT DOLE, DHSS SAYS

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Public spending should be switched from keeping the unemployed idle to providing them with jobs, the Commons select committee on social services said yesterday.

The net cost of providing 250,000 unemployed people with low-paid jobs in the health or social services would be about £56m, the committee said in a report based on evidence provided by the Department of Health and Social Security. It suggests that the net cost of employing a married man with two children in the lowest paid jobs in the health or social services would be £167 a year more than keeping him unemployed on social security.

Public Expenditure on the Social Services, Third Report from the Social Services Committee, House of Commons, Paper 324-I (Stationery Office, £2.30).

The jobless young, page 7

New group to lobby for mentally handicapped

By a Staff Reporter

A new organization which will advise ministers on policy for the mentally handicapped was announced yesterday by six charities who feel that the mentally handicapped have been ignored for years.

The group, The Independent Development Council for Mentally Handicapped People, is chaired by Mr Brian Rix, the former actor and secretary general of MENCAP, the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults.

The council had some immediate tasks, Mr Rix said yesterday. The Special Education Bill will be its first priority and then it will respond to the Government's consultation document on transferring patients from long-stay hospitals to local authority care.

After that it will try to talk to the Government about the Mental Health Bill, which is being imposed by the European Commission of Human Rights. The legislation is expected to give restricted patients in mental hospitals the right to appeal to an independent arbiter.

Mr Rix said that he did not want the council to become a voluntary quango or an excuse for government inaction. The

group is supported by the King's Fund Centre and the charities backing it are MENCAP, the Spastics Society, Dr Bernardo's, MIND, the Campaign for Mentally Handicapped People and the Association of Professions for the Mentally Handicapped.

The council wants to expand on the work of the National Development Group for the Mentally Handicapped, which was disbanded by the Conservatives two years ago.

At present the council has no separate staff or premises, but it hopes to generate its own funds.

Local authorities should have a statutory duty to provide proper services for the mentally ill and handicapped, according to a Conservative policy document published yesterday (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

The document, which comes less than a week after the Government announced plans to reduce the number of mental patients in hospital, calls for more vigorous efforts to achieve a community-based service and for many large hospitals to be closed.

The Right Approach to Mental Health, Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London SW1 3HH, £1.25.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO CLAIM YOUR RETIREMENT PENSION.

Because of strike action at DHSS computer centres special arrangements are necessary to deal with claims for national insurance retirement pensions.

If you already get a retirement pension.

Carry on collecting your pension as usual. These special arrangements do **not** affect you.

If you are about to retire.

Here's what to do if you are about to reach pension age (60 for women; 65 for men) **and** intend to retire from your normal full time job:

A few weeks before you retire, 'phone or write to your local DHSS Office asking for a retirement pension claim form.

- Fill in the form and send it back to the same office. Don't delay, or you could lose money.
- Contact your local DHSS office if you need advice about your claim; or if you don't have enough money to live on and want to claim supplementary benefit.

It may not be possible to work out your full pension entitlement straight away.

In most cases you will get a basic rate pension at first. As soon as possible this will be adjusted to the correct rate and backdated where necessary.

Issued by the Department of Health & Social Security

Fears over drugs for blood pressure

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Serious disorders, including impotence and diabetes, are beginning to emerge as possible side effects of diuretics, drugs commonly used to treat raised blood pressure, it was said at a symposium in London yesterday.

Family doctors have not been warning patients about those risks because they do not know about them, it was said.

Professor Charles George, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at Southampton University, told a meeting at the British Heart Foundation's symposium on cardiovascular drugs, that diuretics, which had been used over the past 10 years and reduced fluid in the body, had been producing ischaemic effects.

Doctors were not aware of the effects because they were awaiting the results of a long-term study on the treatment of raised blood pressure by the Medical Research Council.

Where the benefit to the individual of these drugs lies we still have not defined. That is why these current trials are so important.

"At present, we must look at the individual patient. It may be preferable to advise him to stop smoking than to put him on drugs."

Between two million and five million people probably suffered from raised blood pressure and possibly about 400,000 were being treated by diuretics.

The risks of impotence among men increased with age, but it was possible that diuretics increased the risk by up to 10 times.

One year's treatment with diuretics produced no extra risk of sugar diabetes but with five years' treatment the incidence did increase.

It was impossible to say what the risks were after ten years, because too few had been treated for that long.

Professor George, who was speaking at Imperial College, London University, said that the side effects were something that doctors would need to consider.

Foot at 68: Patriot at war over man's inhumanity to man

By Louis Heron

Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, who is 68 today, spoke yesterday in an interview about patriotism and socialism, the secret conspiracy of the hard left within the Labour Party, and one of his heroes, William Hazlitt.

That told more about Mr Foot than any journalist could hope to learn in many hours of conversation because the two are so alike. Mr Foot stands revealed when he writes and talks about his hero.

In his recent book *Debt of Honour*, he wrote that Hazlitt hated the inhumanities that his fellow-citizens inflicted upon one another. Yet he loved the other worlds in which he and they lived, the world of nature, of books, of the theatre, of painting; of music; indeed the whole wide world of the imagination.

Who can doubt that this is a self-portrait—although unlike Hazlitt Mr Foot is happily married. His hatred of man's inhumanity to man largely explains why he is in politics.

He recalled yesterday how politics was the staple conversation at the family dinner table for as long as he could remember, but the then prevailing deprivation he saw in Liverpool during the 1930s persuaded him to become a politician.

A socialist revolution seemed imminent at the time, and then he added wryly that it was taking longer than he expected. But his time was approaching.

The prospect may daunt many readers although his chances of becoming Prime Minister are not rated highly. Apart from his age, his love of the world of the imagination could prevent him from residing at No 10. At least that is what the cynics suggest.

I am not convinced that a man who lives in the world of the imagination cannot make a good Prime Minister. Arguably the world would be a better place if its leaders spent a little more time in bookshops. Mrs Margaret Thatcher might be a better Prime Minister if her reading had gone beyond Dr Milton Friedman.

That said, for some people Mr Foot does not look a convincing Leader of the Opposition and a future Prime Minister. It is not only his age. Gladstone fought the Midlothian campaign when he was 70, and he was a writer



Mr Michael Foot: Free thinker in the world of the imagination, who may have missed No 10.

although, Mr Foot was quick to add, not nearly as good as Disraeli.

Lloyd George also had a shock of white hair, and nobody questioned his virility, political or otherwise. Why the doubts?

Even some of his admirers believe that he is not cut out for ministerial responsibility, and that he should not have left the back benches where he flourished as the Nonconformist conscience of the nation.

He then vividly expressed the radical tradition in English history, and as one would expect from a member of the Crownwell Society quoted the Lord Protector when he opposed Britain's entry into the European Economic Community. Splendid stuff, but perhaps too romantic for a minister of the Crown.

Mr Foot has also been dismissed as a Little Englander, an emotional pacifist, and a Marxist who is too soft with the unions. As a literary man he

admitted a debt of honour to Marx as a writer nourished on Shakespeare, Cervantes and the Hebrew prophets, but regretted his legacy of socialist sectarianism.

He denied that he was a pacifist. He had supported armed resistance to fascism in Spain and in the Second World War, and he added, "I love my country and people".

He was all in favour of patriotism despite Dr Johnson's drivel, but of course he was a Tory scoundrel.

Britain had the best chance of producing a socialist society, which he defined as a society in which the community spirit and common humanity were the engines of change and not the profit motive. Greed and envy were sins that Mrs Thatcher proclaimed as virtues.

We had the best chance because of our ancient democratic-liberal traditions, and I suggested that the trade

unions were unenlightened, but he insisted that we would now be enjoying this industrial nirvana if the last Labour Government had had a parliamentary majority during its last months in office.

Convincing or not, what did emerge during the conversation was his patriotism. Without any of the usual demureness, he said: "I love my country and people".

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Power from Severn barrage feasible

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A tidal barrage across the Severn estuary, which will produce 6 per cent of the country's electricity at a capital cost of £5,600m, has been judged technically feasible and economic by a government-sponsored inquiry.

Those conclusions come from investigations by a team led by Sir Hermann Bondi, former chief scientist to the Department of Energy and the new chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council, commissioned three years ago.

After comparing numerous proposals for building a dam across the Severn, the group favours a structure crossing the river between Brean Down, near Weston-super-Mare, and Lavernock Point, between Barry and Cardiff. The recommended design would produce electricity twice a day for several hours, in contrast to a more expensive and elaborate plan for continuous generation.

The proposals published yesterday by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, recommend further studies into the environmental and social acceptability of a barrage, over four years, during which the final decision should be made.

The main aim is to generate electricity from large prefabricated concrete units (caissons), housing turbines and sluices. There would also be locks for shipping, and embankments would be created over rocks used to fill the long stretches between the caissons and the shore.

The economic benefit is a cut of between five and eight million tons of coal equivalent of fuels burnt a year in power stations. The cost of electricity from tidal power would be about three-tenths per kilowatt hour, or within the range of future costs calculated for conventional coal and for nuclear plant.

Many factors have influenced the preference shown by Sir Hermann's group, which concludes that a rapid expansion of nuclear plant for generating electricity would reduce the value of tidal power. On the other hand, the faster fossil fuel prices rise, the greater the value of tidal power. The future price of coal is mentioned as especially significant.

With such immense capital costs, a higher discount rate of 7 per cent would make tidal power marginally uneconomic; whereas a lower discount rate, of 3 per cent, would make it an attractive investment.

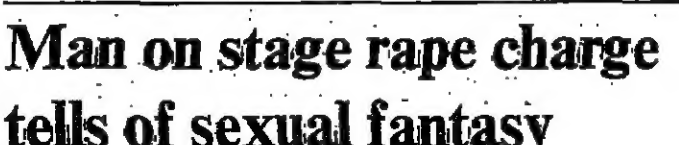
Two large ship locks in the barrage are needed for access to ports in the upper estuary, and continued trade by these ports depends critically upon the new tidal levels within the basin behind the barrage.

The design, called the Inner Barrage, would create about 21,000 new jobs, for varying periods of up to 10 years. The tidal cycle in the Severn estuary makes it one of the world's attractive sites for power generation. Many schemes for exploiting this energy source have been put forward but discarded because of the huge capital costs.

The preferred method of energy extraction, which may be designed to operate in one of three different ways, allows the rising tide to flow through sluices and turbines, which idle in reverse. Generation occurs on the ebb flow; it gives the minimum unit cost for energy production, it has least impact on navigation and it is the least unsightly.

Trials recommended include the placing of large caissons in the Severn estuary and the trial of a type of power generators that will be needed for this form of power production, and of which British industry has limited experience.

The cost of a prototype turbine caisson is estimated at about £25m.



Taming the Severn: Where the barrage will stand.

Man on stage rape charge tells of sexual fantasy

A man accused of raping a woman on the stage of a famous music hall told Leeds Crown Court yesterday that she had agreed to what took place. He denied forcing her to submit or threatening or frightening her.

The woman has alleged she was raped in 1975 on the stage of the City Varieties Theatre, Leeds, after being lured there by the man to take part in a dance audition. The man, who was not arrested until last January, has denied the charge.

Yesterday he admitted luring a woman, now aged 23, to the theatre under false pretences but said he had wanted to act out a fantasy with her, having seen newspaper photographs of her which had aroused his sexual excitement.

He said it was his intention to get the woman to pose naked so that he could watch her. He intended her to believe he was a film producer.

"It was not my intention to have sexual intercourse with her. I get my sexual satisfaction out of watching rather than carrying out the act of intercourse."

In the theatre she had done some dances at his request and he had shown her some steps. He had asked her if she would be prepared to model naked and she agreed. The woman did some poses for him and he told her a contract would be drawn up. They then kissed and he left the stage.

He said he then saw an axe on the wall. "I did not want to leave the theatre without proving that I could go all the way with the woman. In some kinky way," he said.

He had placed the axe on the stage, but had not threatened the woman with it. She had been smiling, he said. He had intercourse with her, but he told the jury "She wanted me, I knew that."

The trial continues today.

Religious post 'first' at BBC

By Robert Nowell

The BBC has broken with tradition by appointing a laywoman as Roman Catholic assistant to the head of Religious Broadcasting, a post hitherto held by priests.

She is Miss Frances Gumbley, aged 25, a classics graduate from Newnham College, Cambridge, who joined the *Catholic Herald* in 1975 and who has been its editor for the past two years—the first woman editor of a Catholic newspaper in this country. Under her editorship the weekly paper has kept its circulation steady at about 29,000.

Her predecessors at the BBC since the war have been Father Agnellus Andrew, now a bishop and head of the Vatican's commission for the media; Father Patrick McEnroe, and Father Crispian Hollis. She expects to take up her new post in the autumn.

Among those interviewed for the job were several well qualified priests who were asked how they would feel about taking part in the weekly Eucharistic celebration held in the religious broadcasting department and about giving and receiving communion. But that question about attitudes to intercommunion was not put to Miss Gumbley, nor, apparently to other lay applicants.

There is a connexion with the other more widely known illness of "diver's bends", because the incidence of the disease is rising. Specialists in diving medicine estimate from examinations of men working below 300 metres that one in five can expect to suffer damage.

More important, the figures indicate that the number will grow as men dive to greater depths for longer periods, as required by the developing offshore energy, mining and engineering industries.

Measurements made on trained divers in shallow waters at up to 40 metres' depth by Dr Maurice Cross and Dr Leslie Booth, of the Houlder Diving Research Unit of the Fort Bovisand Underwater Training Centre, Plymouth, reveal fundamental and rapid changes in the biochemistry of the blood in the first three weeks of diving.

Recovery takes place slowly. But the alterations found in the red blood cells and in the enzymes in the blood plasma are being exploited by Dr

Cross's team to formulate a simple test for rapid screening after divers return from a tour.

The mixture of gases and high pressure can cause "high pressure nervous syndrome" that has among its symptoms vomiting, fatigue and tremors.

A United States research group at the Duke Medical Centre, North Carolina, has conducted tests using various combinations of Trimix (mixtures of helium, nitrogen and oxygen) that avoid narcosis.

The results, reported by Dr P. B. Bennett, compare the conditions of three men, who suffered severe high pressure nervous syndrome for more than two days in 1979 after gradual compression to a depth of 460 metres. They were breathing 5 per cent nitrogen in a helium and oxygen atmosphere.

In subsequent trials, divers maintained a virtually normal state by breathing 10 per cent nitrogen in the gas mixture. Nevertheless it took almost two days before their mental ability was restored.

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صكزا من الأهل

This, believe it or not, is how Shell goes recruiting its marine ecologists.

Every few weeks, a Shell scientist visits beautiful Dornoch Firth, cradled in the heather-blue hills of northern Scotland, to hand-pick 100 sturdy mussels.

They're part of a unique environmental study taking place in the depths around Shell's North Sea oil platforms, where they sit sampling seawater and helping Shell ecologists monitor any signs of pollution from our massive oil-production effort.

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Operating the field involves the discharge into the sea of large quantities of water pumped up with the crude from oil reservoirs deep below the seabed.

And although all waste water is filtered and cleaned more thoroughly than government safety limits require, tiny traces of impurity inevitably remain.

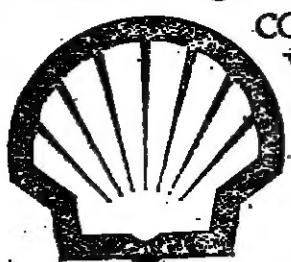
Hence our experts, the mussels. They have the blotting paper-like ability to extract and accumulate the minutest quantities of chemical impurities and hydrocarbons from seawater.

By examining the body-chemistry of Dornoch mussels before and after a spell in the Brent Field, we can detect and check any pollution threat long before it's had time to become a problem.

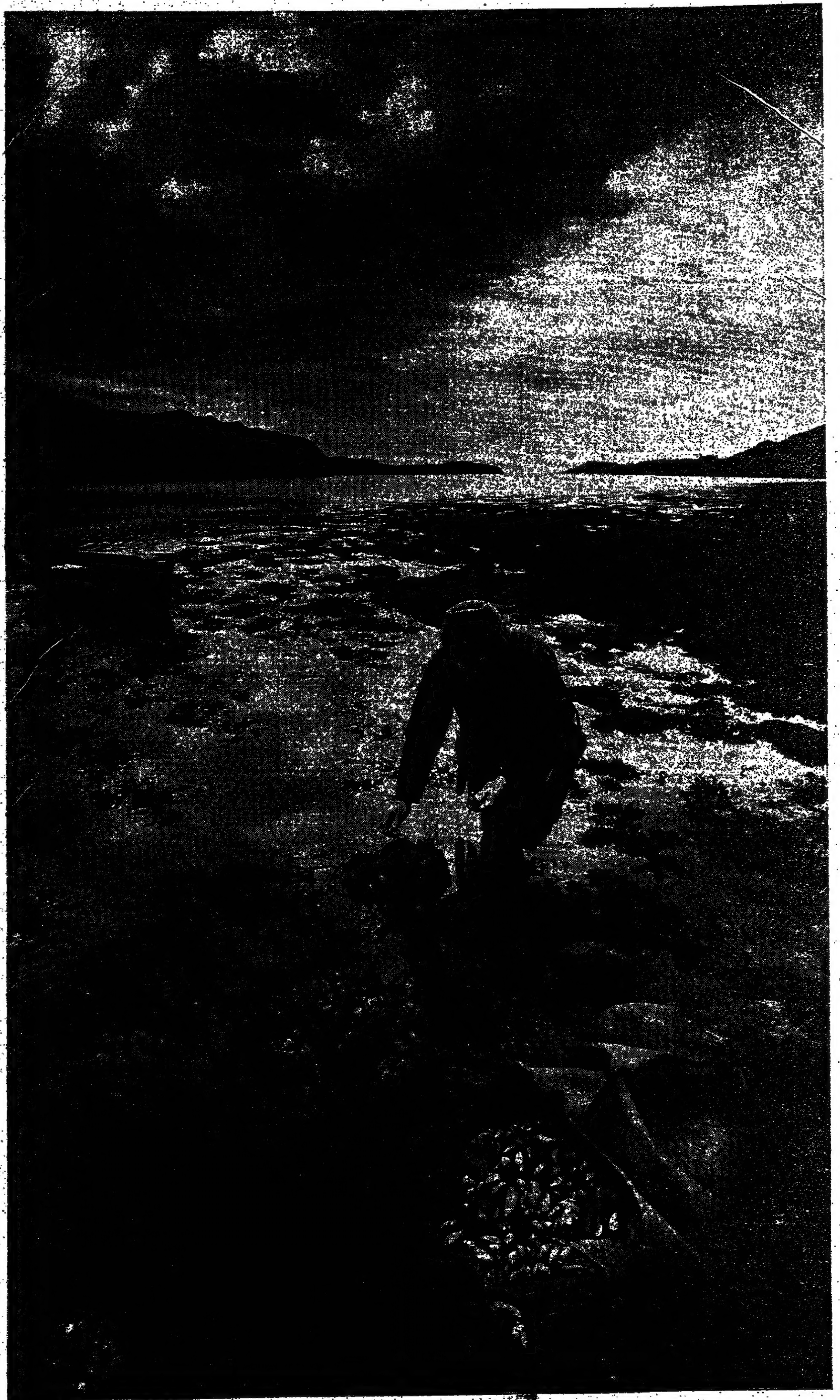
It's an early warning system designed to protect the entire ocean food-chain: plankton and algae, bright feathery sea-anemones, brown shrimp, jellyfish, whiting, cod, grey seal and even whales.

Britain needs North Sea oil. But we must guard against any unwanted consequences of that need.

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You can be sure Shell's playing its part



New culling threat to 5,000 grey seals

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government is soon to announce its decision on the culling of up to 800 mother grey seals and 4,200 pups off the Scottish coast this autumn, an operation similar to the one called off after protests three years ago.

The proposal is one of several in a confidential report from the National Environment Research Council (NERC) being considered by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. The report is believed to disclose a sharp increase in seal numbers last year.

Fears of renewed pressure from the fishing industry, for the first time since 1978 have already led to a preventive strike by conservationists. Lord Melchett, chairman of the Wildlife Link coming bodies, has written to Mr Younger arguing that no big cull should be considered until a three-year research programme on seals' impact on fish stocks, begun last August, is completed.

The fishing industry wants urgent action. Mr Robert Allan, the British Fishing Federation's Scottish officer, said yesterday: "The seal population has been allowed to grow with no restraint for the last three or four years."

"Whatever the scientific evidence, there is certainly a case for doing something rather than doing nothing."

Widespread protests, including a determined and well publicized resistance campaign by Greenpeace, the international environmental group, led to the abandonment of the 1978 cull in favour of a long-term management plan.

In the last two years only the "traditional" local cull of 2,000 pups has been licensed and it has been conceded by the Government that previous estimates of the growth in seal numbers were inflated. Instead of the 7 per cent claimed, growth was put last year at a not statistically significant 3 per cent, partly the result of breeding disturbances caused by previous culls and protests.

According to the NERC's report, prepared by the Sea Mammal Research Unit at Cambridge, this trend appears to have been reversed. The estimate of 61,000 grey seals in Scottish waters in 1979 had risen by last year to 65,000, a growth of almost 7 per cent.

Almost three million signatures in Britain were claimed yesterday on a petition calling for an end to the international trade in seal products and a ban on their import by Britain. The petition has been organized by the Protection and Conservation of Animals and Plantlife, which describes Britain's introduction of an order that seal products should be labelled, as wholly ineffective, since more than nine-tenths of them are re-exported. Several leading trade unionists have signed the petition, which is hoped to be raised with labour organizations in Europe and Canada.

Quotas for disabled must go, commission says

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The quota scheme, which has protected disabled workers for nearly 40 years, should be abandoned as unworkable and out of date, the Manpower Services Commission says today.

Instead, there should be a new general statutory duty requiring employers to "take reasonable steps to promote equality of employment opportunity for disabled people."

The new duty would be linked to a code of practice giving guidance on how it can be met and information on where employers can get assistance in doing so. The new duty would cover the retention of newly disabled employees and the career development of disabled workers, as well as recruitment.

The commission believes the new statutory duty would be an improvement on the quota scheme, mainly because the code of practice would give disabled workers and officers a new tool in their negotiations with employers on behalf of disabled workers. But most voluntary organizations concerned with disabled people will see the new duty as a weakening of the legal obligations on employers, particularly since the MSC makes clear in its report today that prosecution of defaulting employers will still be seen as a last resort.

Both the Disability Alliance and the Royal National Institute for the Blind have urged retention of the quota in response to a leak of the MSC document in *The Times* last week. The alliance, which brings together more than 60 of the main disability organizations, pointed out that the commission's own research had shown that 86 per cent of disabled people wanted to keep the quota.

But the commission believes it is meeting disabled people's wishes by proposing a new form of statutory protection,

ITV told to go for quality

By Kenneth Gooling

Independent television's best prospect of preserving its prosperity in the face of competition from new technology is to devote resources to programme quality. Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, says today in the IBA's annual report.

In a criticism of the franchise process, completed last December, Lord Thomson says the disadvantage is that while it has been a diversion of energy from programme making to corporate survival.

Independent Broadcasting Authority, Annual Report and Accounts, 1980-81. (Stationery Office or booksellers, £2).

A mixture of shock and disbelief in once the county of plenty

By Frances Gibb

Derek, aged 16, has recently been made redundant from the only permanent job he has had since leaving school a year ago with no qualifications. "It was making formica tops. I loved it. But it only lasted a month."

Since then Derek, from Weybridge, Surrey, has tried for several jobs without success. "You show them all the interest you have and they don't show any in you. I went for one in a laboratory, cleaning out the animals and feeding them. It was a job. Nothing doing."

He now idles his time away, visiting the Jobcentre and careers office. "You get cheated off. Bored isn't the word. You feel like blowing your brains out. They say kids don't want to work, but that's a joke."

Being without a job has split up his family. Derek's 18-year-old brother has got work and his father, an alcoholic, has kicked Derek out for not doing likewise. He is now living with friends in Virginia Water, but is having trouble claiming unemployment benefit because of the two weeks he was redundant he jumped the gun and left early.

"I desperately need the money. I need £15 a week to pay my mate's mum; she's got a family and a half to feed." His friend Andrew, aged 18, with whom he now lives, left school two years ago with CSEs in sociology and science and has been in and out of work. He gave up his last job in electronics last week because it was so expensive to travel the long distances involved, a common difficulty in Surrey.

He spends his time sitting around at home, in between visits to the Jobcentre. "You can't afford to go out on the dole," he says. "I want to get back in a job so that I can get a bike or car on the road, get some clothes; do things like that, and get back to normal. Everything is tough and so at the moment I can't afford anything."

Andrew's parents (his father is a postman), who have three other children, have taken in not only Derek, but also another friend who is out of work and has been "kicked out of home."

In Surrey, unemployment is a new phenomenon and has come as something of a shock. Mr John Tunnicliffe, the county careers officer, says: "There is no tradition of unemployment here, and that makes it harder to come to terms with. There is not the same family support. Parents say: 'you could get a job if you really tried.'"

The troubles faced by Cleveland some years ago are just beginning to hit the home counties for the first time, and youth unemployment has permeated even into areas previously protected.

Adult unemployment in the county is about 10 per cent in a population of just under one million (compared with Cleveland's 17 per cent in 560,000), but because unemployment is new, its rise is all the more dramatic.

The situation is the worst for 40 years. The latest figures, published by the county today, show a total of 3,132 unemployed, which may reach 3,600 in September, double the figure for July, 1978, and more than double that (1,161) for July, 1979. Of those, five sixths are school-leavers.

At the same time job vacancies have dropped from a peak of 1,172 in July, 1979, to just 185. Banks and insurance companies, traditionally among the biggest employers in the county (25 per cent of last year's school-leavers went into clerical work) have cut back.

London, which used to be a Mecca for jobs, no longer attracts; it has its own unemployment and is expensive to reach. Commuter areas like Camberley continue to grow but fail to provide work.

Unlike in Cleveland, where YOP schemes have become the main way of staving off even higher unemployment, in Surrey the schemes are relatively underdeveloped, providing some 750 places, of which at the last count 350 were filled.

Straines is one of the badly affected parts of the county. This month, with Sunbury, it has a total of nine permanent jobs on the books and seven YOP placements, against 492 registered unemployed, mostly school-leavers, four times the figure for last year.

There is a steady stream of youngsters through the careers offices, averaging about sixty a day. "Up to now," Mrs Skelt says, "we have been fairly well stocked up with vacancies; it was a foregone conclusion that we could find someone a job."

But it has suddenly hit us. It has come as a complete shock to some youngsters. Some have reacted well and kept going; others have given up."

Unlike Cleveland, where most

Our jobless young—2. Surrey



Face of despair: An unemployed youth sits in hope of an elusive job.

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is September, double the figure for July, 1978, and more than double that (1,161) for July, 1979. Of those, five sixths are school-leavers.

At the same time job vacancies have dropped from a peak of 1,172 in July, 1979, to just 185. Banks and insurance companies, traditionally among the biggest employers in the county (25 per cent of last year's school-leavers went into clerical work) have cut back.

London, which used to be a Mecca for jobs, no longer attracts; it has its own unemployment and is expensive to reach. Commuter areas like Camberley continue to grow but fail to provide work.

Unlike in Cleveland, where YOP schemes have become the main way of staving off even higher unemployment, in Surrey the schemes are relatively underdeveloped, providing some 750 places, of which at the last count 350 were filled.

Straines is one of the badly affected parts of the county. This month, with Sunbury, it has a total of nine permanent jobs on the books and seven YOP placements, against 492 registered unemployed, mostly school-leavers, four times the figure for last year.

There is a steady stream of youngsters through the careers offices, averaging about sixty a day. "Up to now," Mrs Skelt says, "we have been fairly well stocked up with vacancies; it was a foregone conclusion that we could find someone a job."

But it has suddenly hit us. It has come as a complete shock to some youngsters. Some have reacted well and kept going; others have given up."

Unlike Cleveland, where most

Barmaids may pull pints of milk

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

Customers in public houses will be able to buy milk in their favourite local if talks between farmers and brewers are successful. The campaign to persuade breweries to sell milk through their hundreds of tied houses is the latest of many attempts by worried farmers to find new outlets for milk.

It has not yet been decided whether milk would be sold in public houses from traditional pint bottles, like bottled beer, or from the small cardboard containers with straws attached which are being used increasingly for children's milk with added fruit flavours.

Customers are more likely to find their milk offered from dispensing machines of the type used in canteens. Leaders of the Milk Marketing Board said yesterday that talks had begun with breweries about terms.

The board wants milk to be sold as a competitor for fizzy drinks, which have helped in recent years to persuade many housewives to reduce their orders from milkmen.

Mr Peter Jackson, managing director of the board, rejected a suggestion that milk destined for public house sale should be advertised for its value as a stomach lining for those about to consume alcohol.

"We should have people screaming at us that it was an improper thing," he said.

Farmers and dairymen accept that sales of milk on doorsteps will not return to the high levels of the 1960s.



University lecturer murdered

From Our Correspondent

Dartford

A murder inquiry began yesterday after a university lecturer was found battered to death at his home in Canterbury.

The body of Mr Maurice Shapira, aged 52, a bachelor, was discovered by his housekeeper in the bathroom of his bungalow. His silver-grey Peugeot 504 car had been stolen.

Mr Shapira lectured in English and American literature at Canterbury College, Kent University. Friends described him as a quiet, inoffensive fair-minded man who hated violence.

Det Supt Earl Spencer, who is leading 60 officers in the inquiry, said: "We are not sure of the motive but it was not robbery, but appeared not to be robbery."

Professor Mark Kinkead-Weekes, a colleague of the dead man, said: "We are all shocked and distressed. I cannot think of an enemy he may have had, or any reason why someone would want to kill him."

"He was a very gifted and rather quiet person who loved art and music."

Some souvenirs of the royal wedding will be more authentic than others, like the Video 2000 cassette. Philips have spent six years developing the only cassette that will record the whole event. It's part of the new Video 2000 system.

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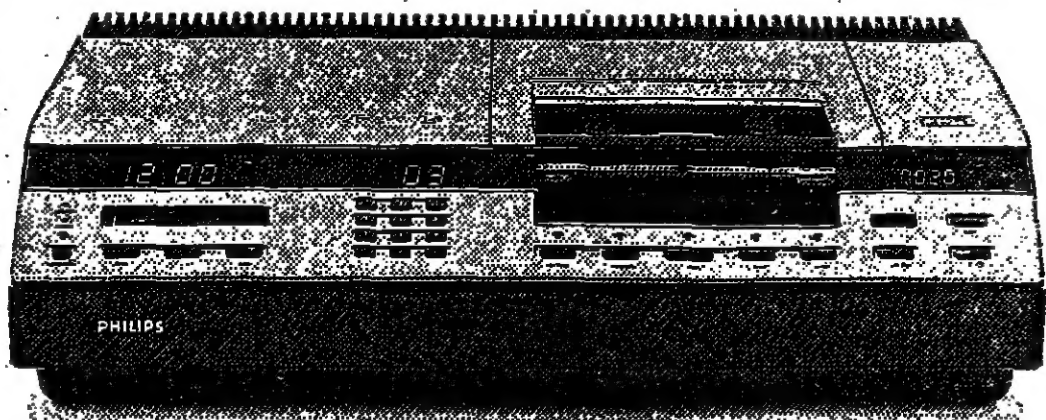
Hour for hour it is one of the cheapest forms of video recording around. It leaves the others waiting at the church.

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On playback the video heads continually compare the video track with this original pilot. The result is the most accurate picture ever.

Video 2000 is so accurate that it needs no tracking control—the knob other video users



VIDEO 2000. If you've been waiting for Video, it's arrived.

Agreement averts dockers' strike in Polish ports

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, July 22

Poland seems to be moving towards a social climate in which both the unions and the Government are testing the mechanism of negotiations in order to settle disputes. A strike by more than 40,000 dockers which threatened to paralysed the Baltic ports when the party has just issued an appeal calling for understanding and restraint, was averted early today.

An agreement reached after 16 hours of tough bargaining, includes what the official news agency PAP described as improved social security benefits and other privileges, including convalescent leave for the dockers.

The agreement is retroactive to the beginning of this year but it is clearly less than the dockers have been asking for. Mr Stanislaw Bejger, the Minister of Maritime Economy, who led the government negotiators, called it a compromise in which neither side was fully satisfied but which also showed that there was good will on both sides.

The dockers of the Solidarity trade union issued a statement making it clear that in accepting the agreement and calling off the strike which was due to start tomorrow, the union was led by "deep concern for the fate of the country" and awareness of burning problems resulting from the critical economic situation.

This, in a sense, confirmed general belief that the union is responding favourably to the authorities' appeal to encourage the party leadership which after the conclusion of the party congress appealed to the nation for cooperation and moderation and for joint efforts to bring the country out of the crisis.

The employees of the Polish airline, Lot, who also threatened to strike later this week, yesterday suspended their strike call in response to a letter from General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister.

The dispute there was over official refusal to accept a general manager elected by the employees. Instead, the Government appointed an Air Force officer as chief of all the airline's operations.

The union reacted with a four-hour token strike two weeks ago and a threat of a full strike for this week. The union took the Prime Minister's letter as a sign, and even a commitment, to resume talks which broke off earlier this month.

The Government recalled that a new law which is in the stage of final drafting in Parliament, will establish the principle who is to manage state enterprises. It is to be a wider reform in industrial enterprises.

Mr Jozef Glomp, the newly nominated Archbishop of Gniezno and Warsaw and Primate of Poland, who has pledged himself to follow the policy of his predecessor, Cardinal Wyszyński, said that a understanding and has already met General Jaruzelski, today saw Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader.

The Church is anxious for Poland to restore social peace and thereby give the Government a chance to begin to carry on its programme aimed at stopping the downward trend in the economy, and it is clearly continuing to exercise its influence on the unions.

□ Zurich—A multinational task force of bankers tonight announced agreement on rescheduling Poland's 1981 debt to Western banks and will submit their proposals to a Polish delegation here tomorrow.

A communiqué issued after a meeting by the task force representing 21 banks in 12 countries said unanimous agreement was reached on all issues which were still outstanding.

However, it gave no details of how the debt owed to 460 creditor banks will be restructured to allow Poland more time for repayment.

Members of the task force were in complete harmony as to the most appropriate way in which all individual types of credit afforded to Poland by the creditor banks should be handled, the communiqué said.

Based on Polish figures earlier this year, the amount involved is estimated at some \$24,000m (£12,500m), though some estimates put it higher.

Although the statement gave no details, banking sources said before today's meeting they expected the final version to be similar to a plan some 60 United States banks agreed on last week.

That would allow Poland to defer until December 10 repayment of capital on its medium and long-term debt due since March 26 this year.

The debt would then be re-scheduled over seven years provided the Polish government mean while drew up an economic stabilisation programme and gave more information about its economy. First repayment would be due in 1985.

□ Berlin: A West Berlin court today passed a detention order on Bernard Pientka, a 21-year-old Pole who hijacked a Polish airliner yesterday and forced it to land in West Berlin, a Justice Department spokesman said.

Mr Pientka had been charged with air piracy and would be tried by a West Berlin court rather than an American military tribunal, the spokesman added.

The charge carries a minimum sentence of one year in prison. Last December a West Berlin court jailed a Pole for four years for a similar hijack.

The three Western allies—Britain, France and the United States—announced that they would protest to the Soviet Union because two MIG-21 interceptors had crossed into West Berlin airspace on the tail of the airliner.

The Polish news agency PAP said the man had been ordered the airline during an internal flight from Katowice to Warsaw. Last December a West Berlin court jailed a Pole for four years for a similar hijack.

Soviet marshal feels confident of Polish forces' reliability as allies

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, July 22

Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Soviet Minister of Defence, today told General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Prime Minister, that the Soviet armed forces were confident the Poles would prove reliable allies and rebuff anti-socialist forces in their country.

His message, published in the army newspaper *Red Star*, comes hard on the heels of a similar expression of confidence from President Brezhnev and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister.

Yesterday the two men sent a relatively warm message of congratulation to mark Poland's national day, and indicated that they believed the Polish party would now be able to settle down to running the country.

Marshal Ustinov, in his message to General Jaruzelski, who is also Minister of Defence, said Poland's armed forces were celebrating the festival in a difficult political atmosphere.

"Hostile forces in the country and abroad are carrying out open attacks on socialism in Poland, provoking complications in Poland's relations with its allies," he said. But Soviet troops believed their comrades in arms would "guarantee a reliable defence of socialist gains in their country."

Mr Viktor Grishin, the leader of the Soviet delegation to the Polish party congress, returned home yesterday, and has presumably been briefing his colleagues on the turbulent and unusual congress.

The Russians, who were markedly cool in their message of congratulation to Mr Stanislaw Kania on his reelection as party secretary, appear to have been somewhat reassured that the party has at last managed to get a grip on events, Mr Brezhnev's message said.

The congress had set the task of stabilising the situation and leading the country out of crisis.

In contrast to his stiff greeting to Mr Kania last week that began "respected comrade", yesterday's message called him "dear comrade", the normal address for leaders of fraternal parties.

He said the Polish party was firmly following the principles of Marxism-Leninism and was "undoubtedly" able to unite all the working people and rally them in resistance to

anarchy and counter-revolution. Mr Grishin, who repeated the widely publicised Soviet worries over Poland in his opening address to the congress, was a little more optimistic by the end. Speaking at a meeting of foreign delegates to the new Polish Central Committee just before returning home, he said the congress had faced important tasks.

The Russians have not hidden their wish to see the smack of

firm government in Poland. Moscow will be watching to see whether Warsaw makes any more concessions in the face of new strike threats. The Russians were alarmed by the demand by airline staff to be allowed to select their own chief, and Press comment was especially scathing on demands for workers' control—an issue that in Moscow looks dangerously like the deeply suspect Yugoslav system.

Polish sailors march in the National Day parade in Victory Square, Warsaw, yesterday.

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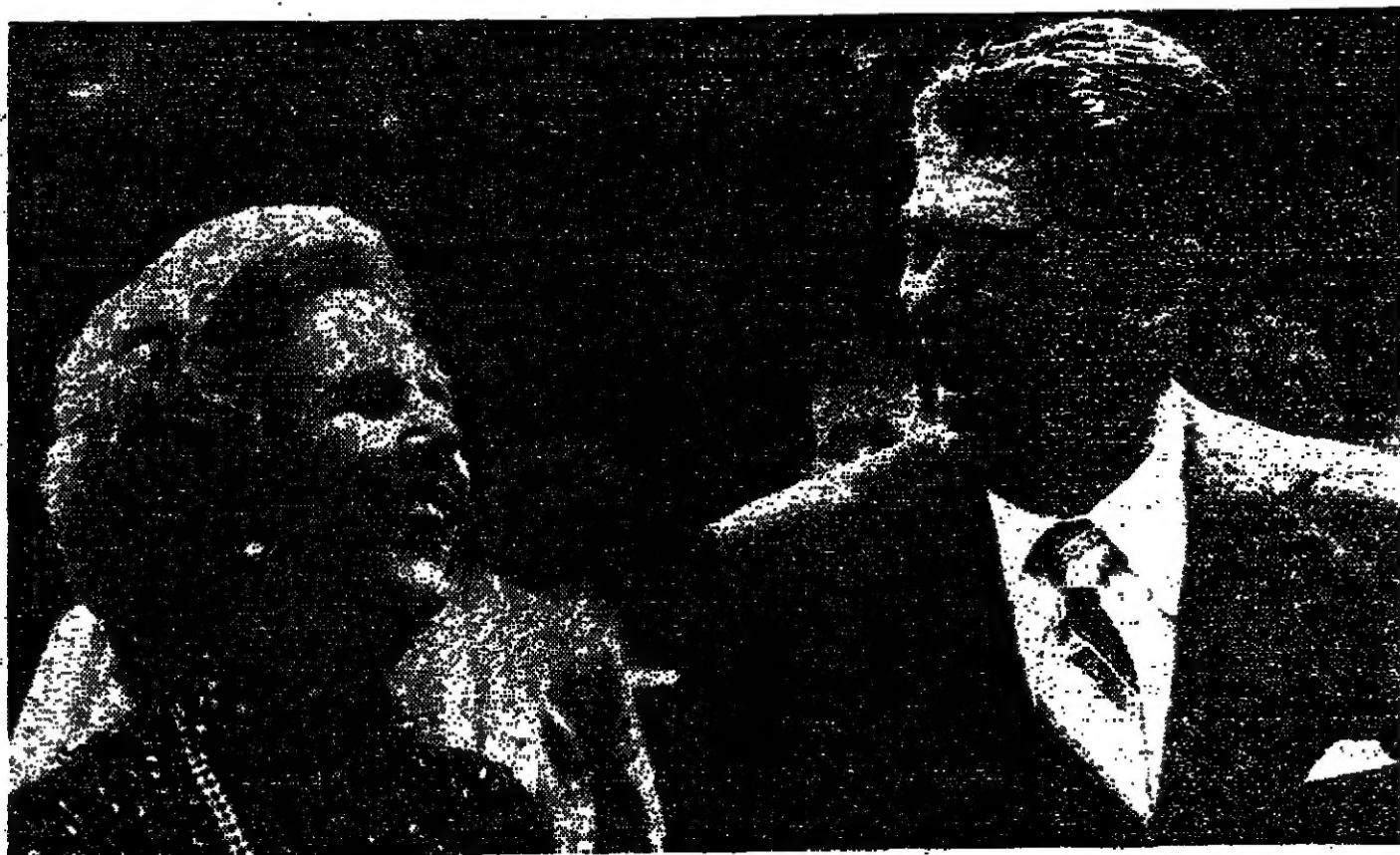
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Two in harmony: Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Reagan sharing a joke at a reception in Ottawa.

Five hurt in Swiss bomb blast

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, July 22

Two terrorist bombs—the fourth and fifth this week—exploded during the rush-hour tonight at Geneva's main railway station.

The first to go off was hidden in a luggage locker in the hall leading to the platforms.

A young Swiss man was seriously injured, and his sister, aged 17, suffered extensive burns from the explosive burst. Another girl, also aged 17, accompanying them was hit by flying metal and was severely burned on the forehead.

An American, aged 21, sustained a chest injury and a Japanese woman tourist, aged 47, had her ear-drums damaged. Nobody was hurt in a second, smaller explosion an hour after area had been cleared in the wake of the first blast.

The second bomb was in a left luggage locker.

Like after the previous explosions, responsibility was claimed by the "June 9 Organization", believed to be an American terrorist group.

It was on June 9 that Swiss police arrested Mardios Sankodigian, a Lebanese Armenian, aged 23, after a member of the Turkish consulate staff here had been shot dead in the street.

In a communiqué, passed to an Arab news agency in Beirut and broadcast today by Radio Lugano, the terrorist group said it would "continue attacks against Swiss objectives everywhere in the world" until such time as Mr Sankodigian was freed.

According to police, the time bombs being used by terrorists are very small. The primary purpose of the indiscriminate daily bombings appear to be to arouse unease among the population.

Since 1976 terrorist groups describing themselves as "Armenian" have been responsible for about a score of explosions at Swiss offices in Rome, Paris, London, Los Angeles, Beirut and Tehran.

Clash over interest rates

Hard US line forces allies to take deflationary measures

From David Blake, Ottawa, July 22

Resigned to the fact that no cut in American interest rates is imminent, West Germany last night was the first country to take action to protect its own economy from the consequences.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, told a press conference at the end of the Ottawa summit that he intended to cut his Government's budget deficit on return to Bonn. Plans drawn up by Herr Hans Maubacher, the Finance Minister, for cuts in spending will now go ahead.

Herr Schmidt said: "We have decided that the state should step back as a public borrower to give the Central Bank more leeway in dealing with interest rates."

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian prime minister, had earlier indicated that measures are likely to be taken in the autumn to put his Government's deficit.

All of the United States' partners had hoped that American interest rates might fall in the near future, thus easing pressure on their currencies. But the hard line adopted by President Reagan means that they now need to take deflationary

action at home to protect their currencies and thus hold down inflation.

Although the leaders of France, West Germany, Britain, Japan, Italy, Canada and the United States, attending the summit expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the meeting, there will be intense activity in the coming months to try to deal with all the problems the summit failed to resolve.

Interest rates and currency stability are the most important of these. Apart from cutting back deficits at home in order to reduce what Herr Schmidt called the highest interest rates since the birth of Christ, the governments of the states of the European Community and Japan are looking with increasing interest at the prospect for joint intervention in foreign exchange markets.

There will also have to be intensive discussion on what to do over trade with Eastern Europe. A last-minute attempt by Washington to get a paragraph in the summit declaration warning of the dangers of excessive reliance on the Soviet Union, and limiting high-technology exports which might be distantly related to

military use, was rebuffed by the Germans.

High-level talks are to take place over the coming months and there will be a meeting of Nato's Comcom committees in the autumn to discuss military matters. There are no signs that the West Germans intend to give ground on this issue and there is no possibility that they will abandon a proposed gas pipeline to carry gas from the Soviet Union to West Germany.

Trade questions will feature prominently over the next year. The European nations made no direct criticism of Japan at the conference. There will be a meeting of ministers of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) next year and there will be special sessions to monitor trade issues. The effect of this is to put off a final decision on trade relations with Japan until 1982.

However, European officials from the EEC are very pleased with the decisions on future meetings, which they think give them an opportunity to put double pressure on the Japanese.

IN BRIEF

Begum Bhutto is freed from jail

Karachi.—Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the executed former Pakistani Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was released here after five months of preventive detention in Karachi jail.

Mrs Bhutto, who heads the banned Pakistan Peoples Party of her late husband, was arrested along with her daughter Benazir, after the hijacking of a Pakistani airliner last March. According to official sources Mrs Bhutto is also likely to be released soon.—AFP.

Salvador negotiations

Washington.—El Salvador's left-wing rebels, in an unexpected reversal of policy, announced their readiness to negotiate with the ruling right-wing junta for a political settlement of their armed conflict. They gave as the sole condition the presence of non-Salvadoran mediators acceptable to both sides.

Giant tanker aground

Zeebrugge.—The 275,000-ton Liberian-registered tanker World Dignity ran aground on a sandbank while manoeuvring to enter Zeebrugge port. Belgian officials said seven tugs were called to free the vessel.

Publisher arrested

Milan.—Police have arrested Giovanni Fabbri, an Italian publishing magnate, on charges of illegally trying to export antiquities and art works worth more than £500,000 out of Italy.

Monsoon kills 300

Delhi.—Rivers swollen by monsoons in western and north-eastern India have ravaged farming communities and villages, resulting in more than 300 deaths, mainly in Jaipur state, officials said.

Husband's revenge

Montbéliard.—A French steel worker aged 41 went on a killing spree near here today and in succession shot dead his estranged wife, her lover and four other people, including one of his bosses.

Road reopened

Lusaka.—The road from Zambia and Zaire to the Agona port of Lubito, closed since 1975, is now open to traffic, an advertisement in the *Zambia Daily Mail* said.

Tanker burns

La Spezia, Italy.—Two crewmen died and a third was seriously injured in a fire on the 51,244-ton *Sinica*, a Liberian-registered oil tanker, in La Spezia harbour.

Guards defect

Schachendorf, Austria.—Two unarmed Hungarian border guards fled across the border to Austria and applied for political asylum, police said.

West renews efforts to free Namibia

From Nicholas Ashford, Ottawa, July 22

The five countries of the Western contact group, which have been dealing with the problem of Namibia (south-west Africa) since 1977, are to make a new attempt to bring the disputed territory to independence.

The foreign ministers of Britain, Canada, France, the United States, West Germany met at the Ottawa summit to examine ways to break the deadlock reached when the settlement talks collapsed in Geneva last January.

The ministers also heard a report from Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, on the talks which the Americans have been holding with South Africa during the past few months on ways of reviving the United Nations settlement initiative on Namibia.

Officially representing the five contact group states are to hold talks in Europe next week. This meeting is designed to pave the way for talks at a ministerial level when the foreign ministers gather in New York for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly in September.

A communiqué from the five, which was released today, reaffirmed the will of the five countries to bring Namibia to independence while the region will work of the United Nations Security Council resolution 435.

A British official said yesterday that although the Americans had made considerable progress in their talks with the South Africans, this had still

not been sufficient to establish a framework for further negotiations.

□ Three main points are being reviewed by the contact group, according to sources in London (David Spanner writes).

These are to ensure that the United Nations acts impartially in dealing with the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) on the one side and the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance on the other; the need for constitutional restraints to be built into the independence arrangements; to prevent a "winner takes all" result in the election; and discussion of the composition of the proposed United Nations force, which would supervise the run-up to independence.

Resolution 435 enjoys the support of the overwhelming majority of the international community, a statement issued by Swapo in London said.

Swapo, the sole political and military liberation movement in Namibia, recognized by the United Nations, said it took great exception to the proposed changes in the resolution.

It called on the contact group to acknowledge that "South African intransigence is the problem and the region will have to be forced into a settlement."

"The only honest course for the five Western countries is to support comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa," the statement added.

TWO-LINE WHIP FOR BBC DEBATE

By Kenneth Gasing

The British Government has taken the exceptional step of issuing a two-line whip to Conservative peers over the next week's Lords debate on a motion condemning the cuts in the BBC's External Services.

The debate is next Thursday and it is understood a strong note has also been sent to Conservative peers urging them to support the Government.

The matter is also being raised today, when members in the Commons discuss the Consolidated Fund Bill, the traditional end of session means of raising whatever subjects they choose.

Eight members have indicated a wish to speak. They include Sir Anthony Kershaw, the chairman of the Commons foreign affairs committee, which this week issued a report condemning the cuts and calling for more capital expenditure on the external services, particularly to China.

Up to yesterday 166 members had signed the all-party motion opposing the cuts which entail abolishing services in seven languages.

Strike in Argentina falters

From Our Correspondent, Buenos Aires, July 22

Bus services were running normally and train services were only partly disrupted in Argentina today by a strike called by the Peronist-led General Confederation of Labour (CGT) in protest at low wages and rising unemployment.

The other main union group, the National Confederation of Labour (CNT) did not support the strike. The CNT is holding talks with the Government in efforts to agree on a "social pact".

According to an Argentine Railways statement, services were normal on the General Roca, San Martín, Sarmiento, Urquiza and Belgrano lines, while services between Buenos Aires and the cities of Córdoba and Tucumán were only slightly disrupted.

Most factories were closed in several southern Buenos Aires industrial areas, but some industrialists said the closures had been arranged at meetings between factory management and workers "to avoid any inconvenience".

Bani-Sadr letter advocates rebellion

By Hahir Teimourian

Mr Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the deposed president of Iran, has raised the flag of rebellion against Ayatollah Khomeini and the ruling clergy, according to reports in Iranian circles in London.

In a personal letter to Mr Massud Rajavi, leader of the left-wing Islamic Mujahedin guerrilla organization, he has advocated the setting up of a National Council of Resistance at a secret spot in Iran, to comprise the Mujahedin and any organizations and individuals willing to fight for the restoration of democracy in the country.

The former president is believed to be hiding in Iran. Details of his letter, which was signed on July 18, reached London yesterday. Mr Bani-Sadr, embittered by the manner of his overthrow and the subsequent accusations of treason levelled against him by the Iranian press, describes the situation there as disastrous.

"The nation has to endure civil and foreign war, numerous executions of people, including children, for voicing opposition to the regime, also the torturing of political prisoners and economic collapse."

The council proposed by Mr Bani-Sadr would act as a national parliament until free elections could be held.

The alliance would have to be situated where it could exercise full control, such as the Kurdish provinces in the mountainous western region of Iran. There, some 12,000 guerrillas of the Kurdish Democratic Party have been fighting against the regime of the ayatollahs for the past two years.

Mr Bani-Sadr and Mr Rajavi are known to have been in contact with Dr Abolrahman Qassemloo, the Kurdish leader, and have discussed with him the prospect of a formal alliance.

If the negotiations are successful a formidable challenge could be posed to the clergy. By signing his letter to Mr Rajavi as the "elected President of Iran," Mr Bani-Sadr makes it clear that he still regards himself as the country's legal head of state.

The authorities have banned all motor cycle traffic on election day. Most of the attacks in recent days were made by men on motor cycles, and the newspaper *Islamic Republic* has said that "mercenary agents of America reportedly intend to perturb the elections" using motor cycles.

The main remaining doubt about the election is water turnout. The authorities hope Mr Rajavi will obtain more than the 12 million votes that swept Mr Bani-Sadr into office in January, 1980, demonstrating the isolation of opposition elements—the National Front, leftist groups and the former president—which have called for an election boycott.

Parliament has lowered the voting age for the presidential balloting from 16 to 15, adding some 800,000 voters to the electorate of 21 million.

Ayatollah Khomeini has called on Iranians to vote as a religious duty. The Iranian Liberation Movement of Mr Mehdi Bazargan, a former Prime Minister, did not attempt to put up a candidate, while the Tudeh (Communist) party and the Islamic Front supported Mr Rajavi.—AFP



Bani-Sadr: "Rebellion"

Mystery aircraft crashes inside Soviet Union

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, July 22

The Russians today announced that an unidentified aircraft entered Soviet airspace from Iran last Saturday, collided with a Soviet aircraft and crashed.

The brief official announcement gave no clue to the identity or type of aircraft. Tass News Agency said it crossed the Soviet frontier near Yerevan, the Armenian capital, a few miles from the Soviet frontier with Turkey and Iran.

It did not respond to inquiries by Soviet air traffic control or to attempts to render assistance. After flying over Soviet territory for some time performing what the official agency called "dangerous manoeuvres. It collided with a Soviet aircraft, fell to the ground and burst out of flames. The Russians did not say whether the aircraft was civil-

ian or military, nor whether there were any casualties. The implication is that Soviet fighters tried to intercept it.

The day in the announcement of the incident—the first violation of Soviet airspace since the incident involving a South Korean passenger jet—crash in the Arctic in 1978—suggests the Russians have had time to examine the wreckage and establish where the aircraft came from.

The refusal to identify the aircraft and the bald description of the incident suggests it did not belong to a Nato country, and was probably Iranian.

The Russians are trying to cultivate good relations with Iran in spite of the wave of executions of leftists, and would be anxious not to publicise an incident that could aggravate the hostile relations between the two countries.

Milk tanker run ordered by Premier to beat strike

From Doug Aiton, Melbourne, July 22

It was impossible to buy milk or bread and many other perishable foods in Melbourne today, a wet mid-winter day. Electricity was cut off for long periods and television was broadcasting for only two hours.

Melbourne is the worst-hit city in a series of strikes staged throughout the country. The strike by transport drivers who want \$4.20 (\$12.5) a week more pay has been going all this week and the dispute is still not resolved. This has affected food supplies, particularly milk.

Power workers in the Latrobe valley, Victoria's electricity generating centre, have also been on strike over pay claims with the resulting power blackouts throughout the state.

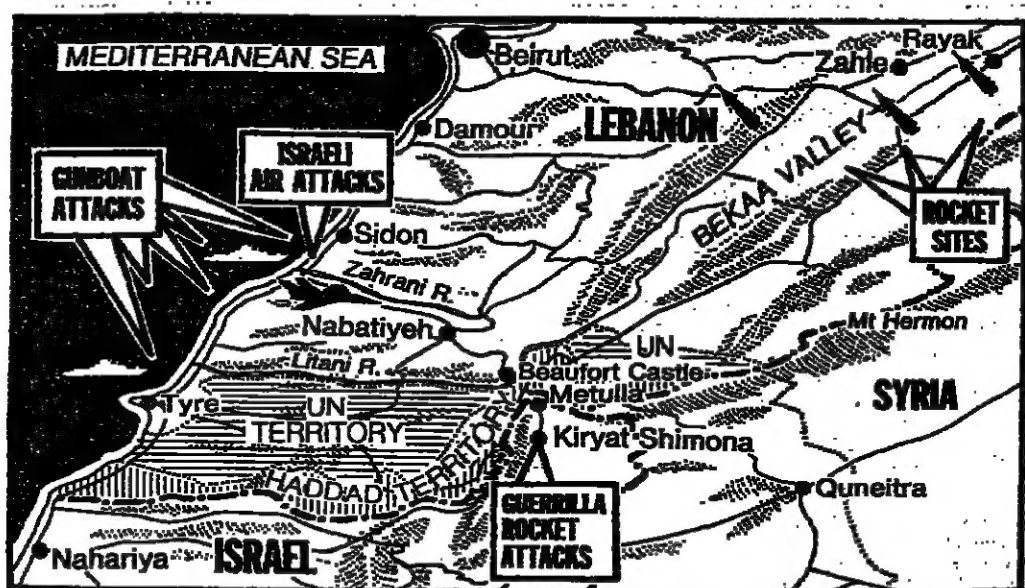
Mr Lindsay Thompson, the Premier of Victoria, sensing the public outrage at stoppages which make no sense to many people, has invoked the Esso-

tial Services Act which means that he can bring in other labour when he believes the safety and security of the public is under threat.

He has ordered milk tanker drivers to go back to work. If they do not, he will bring in volunteer drivers under police protection to do their work. The Transport Workers' Union has decided to allow milk deliveries to continue and production should be back to normal by tomorrow.

Dairy farmers angered by having to work as usual only to throw the milk away, have been bringing in their supplies of milk to Melbourne.

There seems little doubt that the public have almost reached breaking point over the latest strikes. Strike breaking techniques such as those of invoking the Emergency Act and bringing milk to the city have met no resistance from the unions.



Egypt says Israeli raids are reckless

From Our Own Correspondent, Cairo, July 22

Mr Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian Vice-President today said the Israeli raids on Lebanon were reckless and could sabotage Egyptian-Israeli peace.

Mr Mubarak's warning, made in a speech marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Egyptian revolution, was the highest-level public condemnation in Egypt so far of the Israeli raids. Mr Mubarak stressed that Egypt was committed to the peace process but there has been growing concern among officials and diplomats here that Israeli aggression is undermining President Anwar Sadat's position at home.

One western diplomat said: "There is an increasing criticism of Sadat here. Because of his peace efforts, Israel is confident of no retaliation from Egypt when it attacks other Arab countries." Egypt, with its population of 43 million, is the most powerful Arab nation, and is generally regarded as the only Arab country capable of posing a serious threat to Israel.

Mr Sadat has argued since his visit to Jerusalem in 1977 that his initiative will pave the way for a just peace in the Middle East. The peace initiative has previously escaped criticism in Egypt because it offered hopes of prosperity, but the Israeli attacks on Iraq and Lebanon have led many to claim it is giving Israel a free hand to destroy Arab neighbours.

Mr Mubarak said today: "We see Israel returning to the mentality prevailing before peace, and denying the spirit of historic reconciliation. It is resorting to reckless activities in an Arab country, seeking temporary gains that will evaporate at the first test."

Mr Mubarak was representing Mr Sadat at the ceremony, which was held one day early as the anniversary of the overthrow of King Farouk is a public holiday.

Washington: Mr Ephraim Evron, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, today told Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, that the suspension of the delivery of F16 fighter-bombers would only hurt the cause of peace in the Middle East (Nicholas Harris writes).

Mr Evron told Mr Haig that the hostilities in Lebanon were not started by Israel. Israel could not tolerate artillery and rocket fire from the Palestine Liberation Organization operating from across the Lebanese border. He said the suspension would destabilize the area and

Fighting intensifies as hopes fade for Habib mission

From Tewfik Mishiawi, Beirut, July 22

Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, arrived in Beirut today with an Israeli authorization to negotiate a ceasefire after 12 days of hostilities along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has asked Mr Habib to try to establish "peaceful relations between Israel and Lebanon", but rejected any direct or indirect contact with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Mr Habib's mission appears to be doomed from the start, because the Lebanese Government has no power over the estimated 400,000 Palestinians in the country and refuses to talk about an agreement that could be interpreted as a peace treaty with Israel.

The Israeli Cabinet yesterday decided that Mr Habib's contacts should be with President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon, "and not with Arab terrorist organizations which declared that the destruction of Israel and its people."

Mr Habib said: "On the basis of the statement of the Government of Israel, I will proceed with my mission as drafted by President Reagan to seek to bring a ceasefire along the Israeli-Lebanese border as a first step to bringing calm to the area."

The difference between a ceasefire and a Lebanese-Israeli peace treaty tends to reflect the disagreement between Israel and the United States over the interpretation of Mr Habib's mission. While Washington wants its envoy to try to put an end to the fighting, Israel wants him to make peace arrangements with the state of Lebanon.

The Israeli Government gave no indication it would halt its strikes against Palestinian positions in Lebanon.

Mr Habib met Mr Sarkis today, but declined, as usual, to reveal any details to reporters. It was not clear whether he planned to have any contacts with Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader. It appears that negotiations with the PLO are being conducted through Mr Kamel Wakhsham, the United Nations Secretary General Major General William Callaghan, the Irish Commander of the United Nations Truce Supervision Force in Lebanon.

Mr Habib later flew on to Jidda for talks with Saudi Arabian leaders. Mr Arafat announced last night that the Palestinians agreed in principle to discontinue their shelling of Israeli

territory from southern Lebanon, but his sources made this dependent on a halt to Israeli attacks on the Palestinian and other targets in Lebanon. This demand would be just as difficult to achieve as Israel's demand for the termination of all Palestinian guerrilla activities.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said today: "The resistance movement will continue to fight. It will not respond to a ceasefire call." He said that as a result of the guerrilla bombardment of northern Israel, 60 per cent of the inhabitants of Jewish settlements in Upper Galilee had been forced to leave their homes.

Attempts to achieve a ceasefire have had no effect on the fighting, which continued throughout the day. Israeli and Palestinian forces engaged in one of the fiercest artillery and rocket exchanges across the border since the latest escalation started two weeks ago.

Several Israeli warplanes also attacked targets along the southern Lebanese coast and further inland. An Israeli military spokesman said the bombings were concentrated on new makeshift bridges which he said had been put up by the guerrillas across the Qasbiya Bridge and at Zahranji just south of Sidon.

The Palestinians said their forces repelled a column of Israeli troops, backed by tanks and armoured vehicles, at the Khardali Bridge, close to the strategic Palestinian stronghold at Beaufort Castle. The twelfth century fortress has been a target of repeated Israeli air strikes and artillery shelling during the past few days.

Israel has denied its forces crossed the border into Lebanon, but a United Nations spokesman in Beirut said there had been considerable movement by Israeli forces in the border area.

Israeli gunboats again shelled the Lebanese coastline at the point of Zahranji, between the ports of Sidon and Tyre, setting a petrol storage tank at the local refinery on fire, the spokesman said. They said the Israeli army had attempted to land troops at Zahranji from the sea.

In another development, the PLO today blamed Israel for an explosion in front of its Beirut offices yesterday. This is part of the genocidal war being waged by Begin, a spokesman said. The explosion took place only an hour after several key PLO officials had left a meeting at the offices.

Solution of EEC budget fight in sight

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 22

A solution to the seven-month-old dispute between the European Commission and France and West Germany over the 1981 Community budget was in sight today after budget ministers from the 10 member states had agreed to trim 197m European Currency Units (about £108m) of spending planned for this year.

Provided the European Parliament agrees to the compromise when it next meets in September, France and West Germany will drop their objections to this year's budget and both countries as well as Belgium will approve a 366m ECU supplementary budget for 1980 that has also been approved.

The ministers agreed conditionally on a rectifying budget for this year that will reallocate some 521m ECUs no longer needed to support farm prices to cover increased payments by the EEC regional fund in increased food aid and more aid to Third World countries as well as cut back the overall level of community spending.

A delegation from the European Parliament was given the details of the plan at a meeting with the ministers in Brussels today and the first indications were that it would be approved.

The three countries have been refusing to make payments to cover those parts of the two budgets to which they objected. If Parliament approves the compromise, they will make good their arrears and the threat of a constitutional dispute before the European Court will have been lifted.

Today's compromise was pushed through by the British presidency of the Community on the basis of proposals put forward by the Commission.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Budget Commissioner, said it was a very good beginning. The changes made to the Community's 1981 spending plans improved the budgetary balance. The compromise, if adopted by Parliament, would clear up the problems surrounding the 1980 and 1981 budgets and enable the community to agree a budget for next year without fear of doubt about its legal validity, he added.

The rise in world food prices has enabled the Community to reallocate 521m ECUs from the money it would normally spend on agricultural subsidies. The regional fund will gain 200m ECUs from this and other savings, 100m ECUs more will be spent on food aid and 60m ECUs will go on increased aid to developing countries not associated with the EEC.

The ministers will tomorrow discuss the Commission's proposal for the 1982 budget. The Commission has suggested a 16 per cent increase in spending, to 22,381m ECUs, a level that is almost certain to be rejected as too high by the Council.

Scandals may harm Reagan advisers

From Frank Vogl, Washington, July 22

A bizarre set of unrelated episodes involving bankruptcies, missing financiers and close advisers to President Reagan, is now unfolding and is bound to damage the Administration.

The White House is refusing to comment on reports that most concern Mr William Casey, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr Richard Allen, head of the National Security Council. One affair that has already embarrassed the President concerns the resignation last week of Mr Max Hugel, director of operations at the CIA, who was accused in a Washington Post interview by Casey, the director, of being one of his former business partners, Mr Samuel McNeil, of improper dealings. Mr Hugel resigned, but denied all charges and now a mystery is developing with Mr McNeil at its core.

Today, the Triad Energy Corporation, a medium-sized oil and gas company, asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help it trace \$2.5m (£1.3m) in cash that is missing, as well as missing bank records and financial statements. Also missing from Triad is its president, Mr McNeil.

Nobody at Triad has been able to discover the whereabouts of Mr McNeil since he issued his charges against Mr Hugel in the Washington Post last week.

Mr Casey was a close friend of Mr Casey and his resignation coincided with a ruling by a New York judge in a case of a now defunct company called Multiponics Incorporated, that had been launched in the 1960s by Mr Casey.

Investors in the company are suing to get some of their money back and the judge declared that Mr Casey and his fellow directors had omitted and misrepresented facts to investors.

This matter, together with the share dealings of Mr Hugel and his relationship with Mr Casey, was enough to stimulate investigations.

Today Senator Daniel Moynihan of New York complained in blunt terms that the White House and the Justice Department are refusing to help with the congressional investigation into the dealings of Mr Casey and his relationship with Mr Hugel.

The Boston Globe reported that after detailed investigations, including an interview with Mr Casey, it appears that Mr Richard Allen has not fully disclosed all his past dealings with the financier.



Mud on his face and a protester's loud-hailer in his ear fail to disturb the composure of Police Commander Nick Huggard during the first rugby match of the Springboks tour at Gisborne, New Zealand.

Muldoon unmoved by critics and pressures

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, July 22

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, today dismissed any possibility of New Zealand's being expelled from the Commonwealth over its policy of sporting contact with South Africa.

If New Zealand were forced out, there would be such a revulsion of feeling in Britain, Australia and Canada that if those Governments were to acquiesce they would fall," he said. "I have not the slightest doubt about that."

Mr Muldoon also said he was confident that Britain would stand behind New Zealand at the Commonwealth leaders' conference in Melbourne in September.

Yesterday Commonwealth High Commissioners in London moved the venue of the finance ministers' meeting from Auckland to the Bahamas because of the presence of the Springboks rugby team in New Zealand.

Today Mr Muldoon rejected suggestions that New Zealand could find itself isolated in Melbourne in the same way.

He noted that the British representative at the High Commissioners' meeting was a senior civil servant. In Melbourne we will have the British Prime Minister. If I can put it this way, she is a horse of different colour.

The Prime Minister said that his office was collecting information on human rights in other Commonwealth countries to support his claim that other

Violence as Springboks win match

Gisborne, July 22—Anti-apartheid demonstrators fought police and rugby fans here today as the South African Springboks won the first game of their New Zealand tour.

They defeated Poverty Bay 24-6 while police and spectators held back demonstrators who tried to enter the ground by breaking a fence. Police made 13 arrests among the 300 protesters and drafted in extra men to form a wall in front of the broken fence. The match, watched by 10,000 people, went ahead.

As many as 14,000 New Zealanders took part in protest marches throughout the country today. Police arrested 111 people.

There were arrests in Wellington when protesters occupied the headquarters of the ruling National Party. Protesters chained themselves in National Party offices in Dunedin. A taxi driver there drove into a group of protesters. Injuries, as elsewhere, were minor.

In Auckland and Christchurch police made arrests as protesters tore down fences at the main rugby grounds. Police said those arrested would be charged with various offences, including assaulting police and resisting arrest.

Chief Superintendent Brian Davies, who is in charge of policing the tour, told a press conference that the police tactic was minimum deployment with reserves if needed.

Match report, page 18.

RAIN PUTS DANUBE AT DANGER

Vienna, July 22—The worst rainfalls recorded in 124 years and summer snowstorms sweeping Europe have taken 12 lives and caused damage amounting to millions of dollars, officials said yesterday.

"We have had the heaviest rainfalls since 1857 in the past four days," an Austrian Government official said. "The damage done by the floods can not yet be estimated, but it will certainly run into millions of dollars."

In Austria four people were drowned in the floods of the Danube river that was still rising at a rate of 1m (2.5cm) an hour and approached the emergency mark at Vienna.

In West Germany four people, including a two-year-old girl, were reported dead in the flooded rivers in south Germany. In France three alpinists were found frozen to death in the high Alps in a remote hut blocked by avalanches.

In Czechoslovakia one person was drowned in the floods of the Vltava river in the western outskirts of Prague during rescue actions, the CTK news agency said. The report said "Hundreds of houses had to be evacuated along the Elbe river that flooded large parts of the rural area near the town of Melnik in central Bohemia."

A new wave of floods on the Danube from Germany threatened Austria as the border crossing point at Passau had to be closed.

In Vienna the rail track along the bank of the Danube was flooded and the level of the river, near the dangerous mark of 24ft that would inundate housing areas.

"We hope it won't happen," one city official said. "If we are spared new rainfalls we will probably escape another disaster."

Weather experts predicted no new rainfalls for the next 24 hours, but said it will probably rain again before the weekend. Alpine peaks in Austria, France and West Germany were covered with a new layer of 10ft of snow.—UPI.

Hollywood stranglings prosecutor overruled

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, July 22

In an extraordinary move, a Los Angeles judge yesterday ordered the district attorney to bring Angelo Buono, the man accused of being the Hollywood hillside strangler, to trial for the murder of a woman.

Although the prosecution has asked to drop all charges, Mr Roger Kelly, the deputy district attorney, asked Judge Ronald George to dismiss the charges against the 46-year-old upholsterer because of the prosecution's failure to prove its case.

Mr Kelly said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so. He said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so. He said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so.

Much to the surprise of the prosecution, the judge, who would usually grant such motions as a matter of course, denied it. Instead he ruled that he was prepared to call the state attorney general's prosecutor or appoint a special prosecutor or appoint a special prosecutor or appoint a special prosecutor.

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Denying the prosecution's request to dismiss the charges, he said he would not be a rubber stamp for the prosecution. He said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so. He said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so.

In requesting the dismissal, the deputy attorney had said that the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so. He said the prosecution had asked to drop all charges, but he would not do so.

He said that for this reason Mr Buono could no longer be considered the cornerstone of the prosecution's case against his cousin.

Last year, Mr Bianchi had made a deal with prosecutors that he would testify against his cousin in return for not being given the death penalty.

handling of the case of the Turkish political refugees. At least three Turks who fled to Greece and had sought political asylum were repatriated in violation of Greece's international commitments.

A vividly pictorial portrayal of this vexing issue was given in a cartoon of the weekly *Vitna* which showed two daily *Vitna* servicemen—sunglasses, raincoats and all—breasting into the Prime Minister's office to say: "Fumay thing. The Turks did not want the latest defection back. We asked had to force him to go. To which a horrified Premier exclaimed: 'Which defector, you fools, the Hungarian?'"

under opposition fire for its

CIA secrets released in error

Washington, July 22—The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) today said it had released in error a large amount of classified material to a supporter of the Act secret material was leaked deliberately for political purposes.

The statements were made yesterday to the Senate Intelligence Committee as officials of the principal United States intelligence agencies continued to ask Congress to exempt them from the law, which was passed 15 years ago. "There have been mistakes, through which the CIA inadvertently released information that was of enormous value," Mr Bobby Irman, Deputy CIA Director, said.

Without giving details, he said that one such case endangered the life of an intelligence source, while others resulted in disclosure of sensitive material supplied by foreign governments. He said the law required the agency to divert experienced personnel to review requests for information and made it more difficult to recruit sources because of the CIA could not keep secrets.

The testimony of the intelligence officials was challenged by spokesmen for the American Newspaper Publishers Association and Sigma Delta Chi, a journalists' group.

"It seems somewhat improbable that agencies with a sophisticated capability for evaluating information could inadvertently release classified data," Mr Robert Lewis, of Sigma Delta Chi, said.—AP.

Legacy of a reluctant refugee

From Mario Modiano, Athens, July 22

The case of Dr Kalman Szabo, the reluctant Hungarian refugee, is straining Greek-Hungarian diplomatic relations barely a week after the cordial and successful visit here by the Prime Minister of Hungary.

Mr Istvan Dobos, the Hungarian ambassador, was summoned to the Greek foreign ministry today to give an explanation for an embassy statement insinuating that the Greek authorities had put pressure on Dr Szabo to defect.

The embassy, announcing the repatriation of the Hungarian, had said the Greek Foreign Ministry's version that Dr Szabo, after jumping out of a second-floor window of the Hungarian embassy in Athens,

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Mauroy appoints 'eyes' to firms facing nationalization

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 22

Fourteen "delegates" have been appointed by the French government to the companies due for nationalization, one to each of the five big private banks, one to the smaller establishments, and one to each of the eight industrial groups. Three companies with a majority of foreign capital are not affected.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, in announcing the decision, insisted that the 14 men were not intended by the Government to act as inspectors, or take power over the heads of the existing management, but to "establish a permanent contact between them and the Government".

They are also to examine "the concrete problems" raised by nationalization, and these are many, the more so as the Government, with its practical experience of industrial concerns, has not yet worked out in detail its doctrine on the subject.

These men, if they are not meant to be inspectors, will nevertheless act as the eyes of the Government inside each of the concerns to which they are assigned. They are to inform the Government of their mechanisms, and to forestall any attempts to evade nationalization by hiding off part of their capital and their activities to subsidiaries, which do not come under the axe.

Their selection was not an

easy one. They had, as Le Monde points out, to have the necessary qualifications and experience, to be sympathetic to the Government's aims, and to be capable of earning the respect not only of management, but also of the staff and the unions.

All of them are senior officials of banking or industry. One of them, for instance, M. Aime Teyssier, D'Orfeuille, who is appointed as delegate to Paribas, was a Government commissioner with the group from 1966 to 1968, and afterwards at one of its subsidiaries. At one time, he also served as an expert on the staff of the Finance Minister.

The delegates will hold their post until the tabling of the nationalization Bill in the autumn, which is a very short time in which to familiarize themselves with their jobs, and therefore to act effectively.

M. Mauroy has gone out of his way to reassure the banks and industry concerned, and to impress upon them that the Government was determined to go ahead with the proposed nationalizations, but not in a precipitate or haphazard manner.

The clean sweep of the senior executives of the state radio and television companies inherited from the Giscardian regime was taken a step further today with the resignation—

the request of the Prime Minister—of M. Jean-Louis Guillaud, the president of the First Television channel. He is a journalist with nearly 20 years' experience of the television medium.

M. Guillaud had repeatedly stated that he had no intention of leaving his post, and he was under no pressure from his staff to do so.

M. Jacques Boutet, a member of the State Council, who presided over the official television control commission during the last elections, and singled himself out by his zeal in pouncing on any transgression of the rules, will be M. Guillaud's successor. His appointment will be made official at tomorrow's Cabinet meeting.

The last senior executive likely to be removed is Mme Jacqueline Baudrier, the president of Radio-France, who has also stated her intention not to resign. However, she might not be removed until after the vote on the new radio and television Bill, at the end of the year.

Thus, what is tantamount to a "witch hunt" goes on. It is likely to spread in the coming weeks to the lower echelons of the radio and television companies, in spite of repeated assurances by M. Georges Fillioud, the Minister for Communication, that there would be no "witch hunt".

Sandinistas confuse Nicaragua business

From Stephen Downer, Managua, July 22

The head of Nicaragua's largest private business organization has accused the revolutionary government of creating panic with a number of decrees affecting private property announced last weekend.

"A great panic has been created by what has been said," Señor Enrique Dreyfus, president of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise, told reporters last night.

"We have had calls from abroad and from people connected to our organization asking what it all means. There is confusion and concern."

The council, known by its Spanish initials of Cosep, held an emergency meeting behind locked doors last night to discuss Sunday's speech by Señor Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of National Reconstruction.

Señor Ortega announced the confiscation and the nationalization of 14 companies (originally counted as 15) and the expropriation of all properties belonging to the government for months, among other measures.

Another of the decrees was the confiscation of all property from any one found guilty of counter-revolutionary activity.

The Council of State, which has to approve the decrees, is dominated by the Sandinistas. National Liberation Front, the former guerrilla organization now dictating government policy in Nicaragua.

Señor Dreyfus, a clay-tile manufacturer and farmer, said the confiscation of properties might be referred to consideration of international tribunals.

Some of the other measures announced by Señor Ortega, a member of the powerful, nine-member Sandinista directorate, constituted violations of human rights, as recognized by the United Nations.

He added that "everyone has a right to dissent and participate in politics freely without being called a counter-revolutionary".

He praised some government actions, such as agrarian reforms, "but the important thing is production". He wondered whether Nicaragua, which has primarily an agricultural-based economy, could maintain the necessary productivity.

Economically, Nicaragua's situation was sick and serious efforts had to be made to rectify the economy, which was running into debt at the rate of \$1.5m (£750,000) a day.

The gross national product this year will be no better than it was in 1980. About 40 per cent of Nicaragua's professionals, such as engineers, doctors and lawyers, had left since the overthrow of the Anastasio Somoza in 1979 and the seizure of power by the Sandinistas.

"We have certain conditions here that make it difficult for private enterprise to develop. There's a problem between what the Sandinistas say and do."

For a mixed economy, advocated by Señor Ortega, to be successful "you have to have a basic political framework, political pluralism, democracy, law and order."



Gurjeet, the bridegroom, and Aditi in front of the floral canopy.

Ceremony focused on flowers

Splendour at a Sikh wedding

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, July 22

Gurjeet sat on the floor waiting for his bride. He looked quite a prince, composed, straight-backed, bearded and handsome. His saffron turban was decorated with gold thread and a small silver ornament.

He wore a long ivory shawl and a white kurta, and he held a sword, symbol of his determination to protect his wife, and in keeping with the fighting traditions of the Sikhs.

He named himself a fortune name. Like his father, he is an immigrant doctor, with a good practice in Nigeria. When he began to think seriously of marriage a year or so ago he thought of Aditi in Delhi.

He had known each other as children and he remembered her as a pretty girl.

He returned to India and inquired about Aditi. She was free, 19 and strikingly beautiful. They met and were attracted.

And he still chose the girl, the great majority of Indians, the course of the relationship became a matter for the parents.

Most marriages are still arranged. Parents find brides and grooms for their children with the help of marriage brokers and astrologers, through family connections and through the Sunday newspapers.

It is the parents who weigh a girl's looks and wifely qualities, and consider a groom's income and prospects. Marriages are, to some extent, unions of families, as well as individuals, and the details of marriage are settled by the parents.

Gurjeet's marriage was slightly different, although part of a growing modern trend, in that he himself chose the girl. But he left the formalities and the question of suitability to his parents, out of respect for them, for social custom and tradition. In this he had something in common with that Prince in Britain who had to follow much the same procedure.

Having seen Aditi, Gurjeet, who is 25, returned to Nigeria and told his mother and father of his hopes. They, in turn, left for India to examine their son's

choice and to talk with her parents. There was agreement and the engagement was announced. Gurjeet's parents brought Aditi sweets, clothing and trinkets, and a diamond engagement ring.

Aditi is a Hindu, but her family agreed that the wedding ceremony should be according to Sikh rites. The focus of a Hindu wedding is a fire, symbol of the eternal flame of truthfulness. But the centre of a Sikh wedding is a flowered canopy on a dais in which

reposes the holy book of the Sikhs, the Guru Granth Sahib. The night before the wedding of Gurjeet and Aditi there was a celebration. Gurjeet arrived for it on a white horse accompanied by a noisy band, with dancers and people bearing lanterns on poles.

The wedding ceremony, in an hotel in Delhi, was dignified but simple. A priest clad in white sat on the dais behind the holy book and three grey-bearded men in black turbans played squeeze-box organs and a drum, and gently chanted hymns.

About 140 people assembled, women on one side, men on the other, the women in bright peach, pink and orange saris or the north Indian outfit of long dress over silver pants. Everyone was barefoot and non-Sikhs were given napkins to cover their heads.

After hymns had been sung for an hour, Gurjeet and Aditi, dressed in white, were settled in front of the holy book. Aditi appeared in the doorway. Everyone turned.

She looked as fragile as a wasp, beautiful, wrapped in silk and hung about with jewelry. As she walked forward the silk whispered and her bare feet tinkled like the rustle of a Christmas tree.

She wore a pink smock dress over pink pants and was swaddled in a pink, silver-embroidered shawl. On her forehead was a gold filigree disc. One side of her nose was pierced by a gold ring, as fine as a hair, with a small jewel suspended from it. There were heavy necklaces at her throat and her wrists were laden with bangles.

Aditi's slim hands were decorated, back and front, with designs painted with dye which takes a week to wash off. She wore her engagement ring and on the backs of her hands rested gold ornaments. Her bare feet were also adorned with temporary tattoos, and silver rings twinkled on her toes.

Attended by two girls, she made her way slowly down the aisle. Gurjeet was seated, cross-legged on a white sheet, in front of the canopy. Gurjeet and Aditi were seated on a white sheet, in front of the canopy. Gurjeet and Aditi were seated on a white sheet, in front of the canopy.

The priest uncovered the holy book and began to read. From time to time people left their places in the congregation and bowed low before the book, leaving a five or 10-rupee note in offering.

After the reading the couple rose and walked slowly around the canopy, Gurjeet bearing his sword, Aditi clutching the saffron scarf linking her to her husband, walking one pace behind. After circling, they sat, and there were more prayers. Aditi's brother dabbed her nose with a handkerchief.

The couple made three more circuits of the holy book and exchanged rings. Now they were married. They ate a handful of ritual food, rather like marzipan, and people pressed forward to shower them with red rose petals.

They sat on a carpet of petals and their parents placed garlands around their necks and squeezed their shoulders and kissed their heads.

After the hour-long ceremony people began to think about the splendid lunch being prepared in the next room. The tension of the ceremony had ebbed away. Aditi no longer hid in her shawl. She smiled and began to laugh. Her husband laughed, too. Suddenly the room was filled with laughter and chatter. Some young women sniffling quietly, tears falling on to the rose petals. It was a lovely wedding.

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After the hour-long ceremony people began to think about the splendid lunch being prepared in the next room. The tension of the ceremony had ebbed away. Aditi no longer hid in her shawl. She smiled and began to laugh. Her husband laughed, too. Suddenly the room was filled with laughter and chatter. Some young women sniffling quietly, tears falling on to the rose petals. It was a lovely wedding.

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Attended by two girls, she made her way slowly down the aisle. Gurjeet was seated, cross-legged on a white sheet, in front of the canopy. Gurjeet and Aditi were seated on a white sheet, in front of the canopy.

The priest uncovered the holy book and began to read. From time to time people left their places in the congregation and bowed low before the book, leaving a five or 10-rupee note in offering.

After the reading the couple rose and walked slowly around the canopy, Gurjeet bearing his sword, Aditi clutching the saffron scarf linking her to her husband, walking one pace behind. After circling, they sat, and there were more prayers. Aditi's brother dabbed her nose with a handkerchief.

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Torture allegations tarnish Peru image

Allegations that the police torture political detainees have tarnished the democratic image of the civilian Government in Peru and fuelled opposition demands for the repeal of tough anti-terrorist legislation.

The allegations, long voiced by the extreme left, acquired substance in a statement by the Roman Catholic Church's watchdog committee on human rights.

The committee gave details of the case of an accused leftist, Señor Edmundo Cox Beuzerville, and said that there was a certain generalization of police mistreatment of prisoners.

According to the committee, Señor Cox, nephew of a Lima bishop, had his arm broken and his shoulder dislocated while he was being interrogated by the police and was denied medical assistance for 10 days.

The accusations provoked an outcry from left-wing parties, who have demanded an amnesty for the estimated 300 people held under a four-month-old anti-terrorist decree.

The decree, passed with parliamentary approval amid a spate of left-wing bomb attacks, allows police to hold suspects for up to 15 days before handing them over to the courts.

It also establishes strict jail sentences for those convicted of perpetrating, inciting or publishing a defence of what it defined as terrorist acts.

The Government should grant the widest possible political amnesty, free those wrongly held as terrorists and repeal the anti-terrorist decree, Senator General Ledesma Iniqui, a left-winger, said.

The church's accusations were endorsed by the National Human Rights Committee (Conadeh) which said it was about to present a report giving details of more than 20 cases of alleged police torture.

But the committee also violates human rights and we deplore it. But in most of these cases it is incorrect to refer to terrorism, because the authorities have failed to find proof to convict anybody," Señor Moises Sibana, a member of Conadeh, said.

He added: "What we do have proof of is the torture used on the majority of suspects."

The affair inevitably soured the otherwise excellent relations between the church and President Fernando Belaunde Terry's administration, formed a year ago.

President Belaunde initially described the allegations as rumours and said later: "Terrorists are like ladies in furs. You cannot touch them."

He also suggested ironically that the church was becoming eligible for canonization.

But Cardinal Juan Landarini Ricketts, the Primate of Peru, endorsed the church committee's accusations and said he had seen evidence to prove them.

The cardinal's intervention provoked a violent attack by the pro-government daily *Ultima Hora*, which, in a front-page editorial, accused him of failing to denounce human rights violations during the left-wing regime of the late General Juan Velasco Alvarado.

Velasco persecuted, deported, abused, humiliated and confiscated... *Ultima Hora* said.

Other newspapers were more moderate in tone and welcomed the promise by Señor Felipe Osterling, the Justice Minister, of an inquiry into the allegations.

President Belaunde also seemed anxious to cool the controversy when he told reporters his earlier remarks had been intended as jokes and he had not intended to offend the church.

However, political sources said the row obviously embarrassed the Government as it was about to celebrate on July 23 its first year in office since the restoration of democracy.

Summing up the affair, the pro-Government news magazine, *Crónica*, wrote: "Terrorism should be fought with the weapons of the law and with disciplined police efficiency. We must not allow torture to be added to terrorism. That is a spillover of the destroyed many countries." — *Reuters*.

RUSSIAN DISSIDENT JAIL

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow, July 22

A Moscow court yesterday sentenced Mr Felix Serzhnev, one of the last active dissidents monitoring the political uses of psychiatry in the Soviet Union, to four years' hard labour in prison followed by two years of internal exile after convicting him of anti-Soviet agitation.

All the other members of the group that publicized the forcible detention of dissidents in psychiatric hospitals have already been banished abroad or sent to labour camps.

Verifiable respiratory and blood-circulation disorders. Death occurred at 2 am on July 21, the report said. It was signed by three professors.

Mrs Zhivkova, who also held ministerial rank as chairman of the State Committee for Culture, was considered by Western diplomats in Sofia as the moving spirit behind extensive celebrations this year of the 1,300th anniversary of the Bulgarian state.

She was married to the head of Bulgarian television and had two children. Her funeral will take place tomorrow, three days before her thirty-ninth birthday, BTA said.

Haemorrhage kills Sofia's rising star

Vienna, July 22—A sudden brain haemorrhage was the cause of the death yesterday of Mrs Lyudmila Zhivkova, the daughter of President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, an official medical report said today.

The report, quoted by the official BTA news agency, said Mrs Zhivkova, aged 38, a member of the Bulgarian Communist Party's ruling Politburo, had been ill recently because of overstrain, but her health improved after treatment.

However, her condition worsened again as a result of a sudden haemorrhage of the brain, and ensuing hard, irre-

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PORTUGAL CLASH OVER ECONOMY

From Juan Torres, Lisbon, July 22

The Portuguese Cabinet has accepted the Marxist wing of the Council of Ministers, a watchdog body, of attacking the basic rules of democracy by rejecting a Government Bill to change the Law of the Sector. This post-revolutionary law defined the parts of the economy that were open to private enterprise and those that were nationalized.

The Bill would open commercial banking and insurance to the private sector.

In a short statement the Government said that, having accepted the mandate of the Portuguese people in the elections of October, 1980, it would go ahead with its programme of economic reconstruction of the country's economy, despite all obstacles.

The Government has decided to divert funds from the productive side of the public sector, which is not considered to be essential to the country, and to use this money for investment in social fields.

In a radio interview last night, Senhor Carlos Macedo, the Minister for Social Affairs, admitted that he had handed in his resignation during the Cabinet meeting but had been persuaded to withdraw it by Senhor Francisco Pinto Balsemão, the Prime Minister.

Senhor Macedo said there were important questions of principle at stake and that he did not agree with the attitude of certain members of the extreme right-wing of the Christian Democratic Party.

Mitterrand meets little resistance from Senate

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 22

M. Raymond Aron, the eminent sociologist, remarked recently that the only opposition left in France after the victory of the left in the presidential and parliamentary elections was that of the facts, and these were stubborn.

The Socialists have control of the Government, the Assembly and to some extent the trade unions. But there is also the Senate, on which political activity is focused this week, starting with the Amnesty Bill adopted this morning by 284 votes to one. The left has only 105 seats out of 305 in the Upper House.

Under the Fifth Republic, however, its powers are very limited. It cannot overthrow the Government or obstruct the decisions of the National Assembly, but only delay them to a certain extent. It was a very different proposition under the Third Republic. The Popular Front Government of Léon Blum was overthrown by a vote of the Upper House in 1937 when it refused to grant him the full powers he asked for.

Part four of Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards.

On September 23, 1910, the Tolstoy family celebrated their forty-eighth wedding anniversary, and Tolstoy agreed to Sonya's request that Bulgakov photograph them together. Their daughter Sasha, obsessively devoted to her father, was jealous and incensed. She did not want the world to see a picture of her mother (dressed in a white silk gown like a "vestal goddess") standing next to her father, her arm linked possessively through his.

A recent incident had made her ill-will toward her mother even stronger. In one of her moments of distraction, Sonya had torn up two photographs in Tolstoy's study — one of Chertkov with Ilya, and the other of Sasha with Tolstoy — and had put portraits of herself and of Tolstoy's father in their place.

Sonya's suspicion that Tolstoy had signed a new will grew, as did her jealousy and hatred of Chertkov. Convinced that her husband was having an immoral affair with his disciple, she wrote Tolstoy a wildly incoherent letter. In it she accused him of homosexual acts and quoted a passage from his earliest diary in which he had discussed his love for men.

She railed obsessively at him about this friendship. Insisting he stop writing to Chertkov, she wrote, "You are always carrying on a secret amatory correspondence". Whenever she saw him leaving the house alone, she followed him, certain that he was on his way to a rendezvous with Chertkov.

Terrible dreams troubled Sonya, and one night she jumped from her bed sure that she heard Chertkov and Tolstoy making love in her room. Tolstoy was disturbed when she recounted these nightmares, but he was horrified by her demand that their marital relations be resumed. This last "indiscretion" on Sonya's part drove him to his escape from Yasnaya Polyana. Talking Sasha into his confidence, he told her to inform Chertkov of his plans.

On the night of October 27 Sonya was terribly restless. She drifted in and out of sleep, dreadful images of Tolstoy and Chertkov engaged in the most base sexual acts tormented her. Thinking she heard Chertkov's high laugh, she went out into the hallway. The house was dark and silent; everyone was asleep. The first words she heard were "Where is Papa?" she cried, rushing toward Sasha. "He has gone away."

Search for a new will

As she stood in her nightclothes, her thick grey hair loose about her shoulders, Sonya became convinced that there was a new will and that she must find it that very night. She made her way stealthily to Tolstoy's study. In the adjoining room her husband awakened.

"I heard the opening doors and footsteps," he wrote in his diary the next day. "I saw a bright light in the study and heard a rustling. That was Sonya Andreyevna, searching, probably reading. . . . Again footsteps and a cautious opening of doors and she went out. . . . I tried to go to sleep again but could not. I tossed about for an hour. Lighted a candle, and sat up. The door opened. Sonya Andreyevna came in and asked 'How are you?' . . . My aversion and indignation grew. I choked and counted my pulse — 97. I could lie there no longer and suddenly took the final decision to go away."

Sonya left him and fell into an exhausted sleep. There were no more footsteps or sounds in the house that night. Tolstoy rose and wrote her a letter, in which he stated:

My departure will grieve you. I am sorry for that, but please understand and believe that I could not act otherwise. My position in the house is becoming and has become unbearable. Apart from everything else, I can no longer live in these conditions of luxury in which I have been living, and I am doing what old men of my age commonly do: leaving this worldly life in order to live out my last days in peace and solitude.

I thank you for your honourable forty-eight years of life with me, and I beg you to forgive me for anything in which I have been at fault toward you, as I wish all my soul forgive you for any wrong you have done me.

Still in his dressing gown and slippers, Tolstoy picked up his cane and went to wake his physician, Dr Makovitsky. "I have decided to go away," he said. "You must come with me. I am going upstairs and you must come too, only don't wake Sonya Andreyevna. We won't take much with us — only what is essential. Sasha will follow us in a few days."

After returning to his room to dress, Tolstoy woke Sasha, and they packed his things together. The only plan Tolstoy had at the time was to go to Maria Nikolaevna's monastery in the province of Kaluga. Makovitsky made no effort to dissuade his patient, an 82-year-old man who had suffered several strokes, from venturing off into the unknown on a damp, cold morning.

Tolstoy went out to tell the coachman to harness horses to the droshky, but he became confused in the dark. He wrote in his diary, "I missed the path to the wing of the house, stumbled into a tree, pricked myself, ran into the trees, fell, lost my cap, and couldn't find it,



Above: the last photograph of Lev and Sonya. Right: Sonya at Astapovo railway station, where Tolstoy caught pneumonia and died after his flight from Yasnaya Polyana.



Tolstoy's escape to death

Sonya's obsessive feud with Chertkov over possession of her husband's literary papers carried her to the brink of madness and even suicide. And in the end it brought about what she had most feared: the final break with Tolstoy.

difficulty. Of course I have sinned and do sin, but if only I can manage to sin less. I am trying to do only what I cannot help doing and to avoid what can be avoided. . . . I hope very much from the good influence of Tanya and Sergey. The chief thing is that they should understand and try to suggest to [Sonya] that for me — with her spying, eavesdropping, continual reproaches, and disposing of me as she pleased, her constant control over me and feigned hatred of the man nearest and most necessary to me, together with an evident hatred of me disguised as love — life was not merely unpleasant but quite unendurable. . . . They might suggest that all her actions in regard to me were merely expressions of love, but seem to be done for the express purpose of killing me — which purpose she is achieving, for I hope that the third stroke she had suffered two years ago, which threatens me will free both her and me from the horrible situation in which we have been living and which I do not wish to renew. Write and tell me how you are. I kiss you. L.T.

Sasha met her father at the monastery on the morning of October 30, and after telling him that Sonya had discovered where he was, she urged him to leave with her. Tolstoy, however, was reluctant to travel, and Sasha sensed that "Papa regrets having left home".

Still she pressed on; by that afternoon, plans were being made to go to Bulgaria or, if that proved impossible, to go to the Caucasus. Sasha's fear that Sonya might follow them were baseless. Since he had left, she had eaten nothing and she was too weak to leave the house. Her children feared for her life and wrote letters to their father.

From Ilya: Dear Papa: . . . Sasha will tell you what took place when you had gone. . . . but I fear her explanation will be rather one-sided, and I am, therefore, writing too. . . . Needless to say we do not wish to, and cannot blame anyone. First of all, we must do everything we can to preserve and as far as possible calm Mamma. . . . She says all the time that there is nothing to live for, and her state is so pitiable that none of us can speak to her without tears. . . . Her life is certainly in great danger. One fears both violent death and a slow extinction from grief and anguish. That is what I think, and what I feel that for the sake of truth we ought to tell you. I know how painful life was for you here. . . . but then you regarded that life as your cross. . . . I am sorry you did not endure that cross to the end. You are 82 and Mamma 67. You have both of you lived your lives and should die becomingly. . . . I do not call on you to return here immediately, because I know you cannot do it. But for the sake of Mamma's tranquillity, write to her, give her a possibility of strengthening her nervous system and then let it be as God may decree!

Sonya herself sent a letter to Tolstoy pleading for a meeting

or for his return. He replied on October 31 that it was "quite impossible" for him to see her and ended his letter: "Farewell, dear Sonya: may God help you! Life is not a jest, and we have no right to throw it away at our own caprice. And to measure it by length of time is also unreasonable. Perhaps those months which remain to us are more important than all the years we have yet lived, and they should be lived well. L.T."

On November 1 Tolstoy wrote in his diary, "Sasha was anxious lest we should be overtaken [by Sonya], so we set off [for the Caucasus]." In order to deceive Sonya, an elaborate plan had been made to travel by a circuitous route. This decision was foolish; a man of Tolstoy's stature could not keep his movements secret. In fact, his flight from Yasnaya Polyana had become international news, and reporters were converging on the area from all over the world.

Meeting would be fatal

The day was cold and windy and the sky was stormy. Because of the route they had chosen, Tolstoy and his party would have to change trains several times. Some hours were spent waiting in unheated stations, and at Astapovo, their third travel point, Tolstoy fell sick with a high fever and chills.

When Makovitsky admitted

that Tanya was in Astapovo, Tolstoy said that he wanted to see her. As soon as she entered the close, crowded sick room, he asked, "Who is with [Sonya]?"

"Andrey and Misha," she replied carefully, not lying to him yet not telling him that Sonya was at Astapovo. "Misha, too?"

"They are all quite agreed on not letting her come to you as long as you do not wish it." His voice breaking, he demanded, "Tell me, tell me! What can be more important to me than that? . . . Is she well?"

Tanya again told him that her mother was well, that she was waiting to be summoned by him, and that she would not come until he asked for her. Tolstoy was silent, and Tanya left and returned to her mother. There seemed to be no end to Sonya's questions about Tolstoy's condition, about their conversation, and about the people who were with him. She became upset when Tanya said that Chertkov was indeed present, but she grew calmer as she repeated Tolstoy's words. "What can be more important to me than that?" Sonya was certain in her heart that he wanted to see her, that Chertkov and Sasha were keeping him from doing so. A short time later a telegram from Tolstoy (which had been addressed to Yasnaya Polyana) was delivered to her. It read: "Because my heart is so weak a meeting would be fatal, though otherwise I am better. L.T." (This telegram somehow got in a reporter's hands and was printed.)

Beside herself with grief, Sonya walked distractedly beside the tracks, the doctors, the nurse, and her children desperately trying to protect her from the crowds that pressed about. Photographers pursued her and clambered on to bystanders' shoulders in order to get a clear view of her. The whirring sound of newsreel cameras was a constant buzzing in her ears. Reporters tugged at her arms,

and to her family's horror the distraught and confused Sonya talked to them. As she became more agitated, she broke away from her keepers and marched to the stationmaster's hut, only to be denied entrance by Sasha. Finding her position unbearably humiliating, she begged Sasha to allow her to go into the small entryway of the hut, thus making it appear to the cameramen who were filming her that she was visiting her husband.

Sasha finally permitted this, but the door to Tolstoy's sickroom and the room adjoining it were kept carefully guarded. During the next days and nights Sonya haunted the damp entryway and prowled about the outside of the little house, straining to catch a glimpse of her dying husband through the closed windows. The bulletins from the sickroom brought grave news: Tolstoy was sinking.

On the evening of November 6 Tolstoy began to move his hand slowly over his breast, plucking at the blanket — an action the peasants called "getting ready". Once or twice he made a quick movement with his hand along the sheet as if he were writing. By two o'clock in the morning he had slipped into unconsciousness.

His breathing was regular, but Makovitsky knew he did not have long to live. Chertkov, his languid grey eyes staring into the half-dark, sat at the head of the bed, with Seryozha opposite him. Tanya, Sasha, Varya, Andrey, and Misha were sitting in the next room, and they glanced up anxiously every few minutes as one or another of the doctors passed through.

At about 3 am Makovitsky took Tolstoy's pulse and found that his heartbeat was rapidly becoming weaker. One of the other doctors insisted that Sonya be called, saying they had no right to keep a wife from seeing her husband before he died.

Misha and Andrey went to get her. Standing in the tiny, draughty entryway with great tears rolling down her pale cheeks, she looked like a lost child. She grasped her son's arms tightly and walked past Sasha and Tanya and the doctors. Chertkov had slipped into the small kitchen when he heard Sonya coming.

Tolstoy's room was lit by the single candle that burned by his bedside. She stood in the doorway for a moment, and then, on tiptoe, as though afraid she might awaken him, she crossed to his side, gently kissed his forehead, and sank to her knees beside his bed. "Forgive me! Forgive me," she cried softly.

Sonya leaned closer, certain he was aware of her presence. Fearful the dying man might regain consciousness and see her, one of the doctors said gently that it would be best for her to leave. She rose to her feet and, holding her skirts tightly so that they would not rustle, she slowly left the room.

Refusing to return to her car, she stood with Tanya in the entryway. At 5.30 am Seryozha came to the door. Sonya walked directly to him, knowing the end was approaching, and went with him into Tolstoy's room. Chertkov had left, and Tolstoy's children stood around his bed. Misha and Andrey moved aside, and Sonya knelt by him and murmured, "I have never loved anyone but you."

Tolstoy's faint breathing stopped; then there were a few more breaths, another cessation, and finally a slight rattle. Makovitsky stepped in beside Sonya and closed Tolstoy's eyes. Sonya stood up and, gently weeping, leaned over the body of her husband and rested her head on his chest. Not even Sasha intervened.

© 1981 Anne Edwards

From Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards, which is published by Hodder and Stoughton at £8.50.

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Tomorrow: Life after Tolstoy



Final journey: the bleak winter scene as the snow-covered carriage bears Tolstoy's body at the funeral.



The Opium-Eater
A Life of Thomas De Quincey
By Grevel Lindop

**The Collected
Letters of Thomas
and Jane Welsh
Carlyle**

The Hour of our Death

By Philippe Ariès

Richard Holmes

Fiction

Marital Rites

By Margaret Forster
(Secker & Warburg, £6.95)

Rough Strife

By Lynne Sharon Schwartz

(Gollancz, £6.95)
The Dew -

By John Toft

(W. H. Allen, £7.95)
A few of the titles here

Why Smith failed

Triumph or Tragedy?

Uvodna to Zimlatreba

By Miles Hudson

Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

I appreciated the insights that Miles Hudson's book offered, but on one point I would disagree with him. He argues that the scale of Mugabe's victory was due to the "African tendency to jump on the bandwagon". And yet he himself maintains that one of the "recurring factors in the Rhodesia situation has been 'over-optimistic white intelligence about the real feelings of the Africans'". I believe that the African population voted en masse for the man they perceived, and I speak as a journalist who like many of my white colleagues got it wrong at the time...

Julian Marshall

The world through a visor

The Last Captain

The English Achilles

By Hugh Talbot.

By Frank Worsdall
Molendinar Press, £9.95
 1964, Lond. Fisher, 200 pp.

And yet what a city it must have been the old town spreading around the medieval Cathedral and university, a centre of learning and life which

ated loss has been can be seen from the splendid collection of old photographs he has assembled, accompanied in each case by a brief but informative

Largest urban wasteland

The City that

Disappeared

Glasgow's Demolished Architects

By Frank Worsdell

Molendinar Press, £9.95)

His initial attitude was, regrettably, that of many Englishmen who have accepted that Edinburgh is something special but have tended to regard Glasgow as somewhere to be pitied and avoided. His conversion moreover, even if it had occurred, would have been of second importance, since it

Subsequent economic decline may have been inevitable, but Mr Worsdall rightly refuses to accept that as an excuse for the

commentary. **John Young**

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THE ARTS

Interview

Greatest classics

In September those of us with no Greek will be able to catch a reflection of the distant glories of the Greek Anthology from Simonides to romantic Paulos; those with no ancient Sanskrit will be able to search for that mystical first principle in the original of the *Vedas*. No one will be introduced to the blood and battles of the early Irish myths and sagas. In the same month Penguin Classics are publishing a new translation of the *Rubaiyat*, three Sanskrit plays, and revised editions of Aristotle's *Politics* and Theophrastus' *Characters*. The *Odyssey* by E. V. Rieu, who had until then a rather dim career as a publisher, re-read the *Odyssey* because he was afraid of losing his Greek. His wife thought his translation into everyday English rather poor. She showed him to Allen Tate, who was then at the original intended to be a series for those with no knowledge of the original. He defined his principle for translation as "that of equivalent effect; that is, that translation is the best which comes nearest to creating in its audience the same impression as was made by the original on its contemporaries." The *Odyssey* and its successors were a new genre of classics, free from archaism, pedantry, and translationese.

The severer sort of academics disapproved that the translations would be used by their captive classes as crutches like Kelly's Keys. We have come a long way since then; and the study of the classics as literature rather than language has become respectable as well as enjoyable. By another accident Betty Radice was living just across the hill from E. V. Rieu in Highgate and teaching at Channing School. As Betty Dawson from Hull and the only one of her year at St. Hilda's reading classics, she had been turned out to Bial for tutoring, and got a First in Mods. She is a born translator and commentator, particularly of Latin, and would have become a don. But she married De Lisle Radice immediately after they came to Oxford, and three sons and a daughter were her career until well after the war.

Back in teaching, and looking for new books to teach from,

Peter Schaufuss stars next week at the Festival Hall in his much-acclaimed production of *La Sylphide* for Festival Ballet; but if he had listened to his doctors he would no longer be dancing and might be remembered only as an exceptionally promising young man who never achieved his potential.

He had gone to the United States in 1974 to join New York City Ballet, and before long began to have health problems. Referred from one doctor to another, he received the same answer from all: an operation was essential and he would not be able to dance after it.

In despair, he took one last dance and flew to consult an osteopath in London who specializes in dancers' problems. The specialist later admitted he had accepted Schaufuss as a patient only because he knew there was no alternative: his own assessment was at best an even chance of succeeding. The cure took several months, during which Schaufuss hid at home between treatments, so as not to meet his friends. "I read more than I ever did before," he says.

If he ran into anyone he knew, he pretended to be on tour between New York and his birthplace, Copenhagen. Only when it was all over could he bear to admit how ill he had been. By then he was not just as good as ever, but better. Now the osteopath is practically a second father to him.

Schaufuss's real father was a leading dancer of the Royal Danish Ballet and, for a time, director. His mother, Mona Vangsaas, was one of the finest Danish ballerinas, marvellous in the *Bournoisville* ballets, and the original ballet in Ashman's production of the Prokofiev ballet, in which her husband played Mercurio and Peter, then aged seven, the page.

With both parents in the ballet, it was inevitable that he should follow; where else, he asks, would he have spent the evenings if not in the theatre? He has great physical aptitude: saw his first Albrecht's solo for his graduation examination at 17, and impressive it was too.

Start was spectacular

But in early years, aptitude was matched by great enthusiasm. He remembers being more interested in boxing and other sports, like his contemporary Johnny Eliassen, whose career in Copenhagen is a model of what Schaufuss's might have been. He progressed steadily to a respected position at the Royal Theatre and the occasional guest engagement abroad.

Largely because of a home background that had become decidedly untheatrical, he got away to a quite spectacular start that quickly fizzled out. To



In rehearsal: Peter Schaufuss with, above, Niels Bjorn Larsen and Mariya Vella Galt; right, with Larsen, working on *La Sylphide*.

start your career as guest star in the Canadian National Ballet's *Nutcracker* is rather splendid, but he soon found that the market for teenage guest stars with no experience and no repertoire is restricted, and it took time before the Royal Danish Ballet was willing to accept him back.

Then, at 21, he was off again, this time to London Festival Ballet to replace John Gilpin, who had retired prematurely because of illness. Schaufuss made his debut in *The Sleeping Beauty*, which he had never even seen before. He admits now how alarming it was to attempt a style new to him, dancing his first Petipa classic in front of a London audience. He spent the first four years of the *Sevens* mostly with Festival, but danced with other companies, too, not always of the first rank.

He never lacked work, or roles, but artistically he was getting nowhere fast. Then came an invitation to join New York City Ballet, not quite out of the blue, because he had taken a class with the company when passing through Manhattan, and knowing of Balanchine's liking for male dancers with a Danish training, had not stinted to make himself noticed.

Despite his admiration for Balanchine, Schaufuss was never really at home with NYCB. The first crucial experience during his time there was the injury which forced him to think hard about his career. Then there was an invitation to partner Makarova at short notice in *Giselle* with American Ballet Theatre when her intended partner was unavailable. After that, he realized that the roles he really wanted to dance were those requiring an emotional commitment, where the dancer has to present a

character or a personal interpretation. Such roles, by enabling him to work full-out, have also increased his strength as a virtuoso.

His permanent affiliation since 1977 has been with the National Ballet of Canada, which offers an attractively eclectic repertoire and allows him to accept many guest engagements, mainly with Festival Ballet and the Royal Danish Ballet. The wheel of fortune has brought him back to the three companies where he began his dancing days.

Lately, too, dancing with the Ballet de Marseille and also having *The Phantom of the Opera* created for him in Paris, Schaufuss has come heavily under Roland Petit's guidance and readily admits how much he has learned about projecting a role. He has become interested enough in dance for drama's sake that the role he specially

covets is Petit's own as the aging young hero he actually plays in Petit's *Coppelia*.

The other important turn in his career has been to find himself a serious interest in teaching and in producing ballets. His staging of *La Sylphide* has won praise for preserving the traditional values of *Bournoisville*'s choreography, but it actually does so with many revolutionary changes, which Schaufuss defends with quiet logic.

"*Bournoisville* had to work with a small company and used scores to supplement the dancers," he says. "All his ballets were created on a small stage, not as big as the present Royal Theatre in Copenhagen. If you are going to dance them in the large theatre and auditorium, we use today, they have to be expanded. And public taste today would not accept as much

mime as he used. People expect to see more dancing, and to see the drama expressed through dancing."

He is preparing to follow up the success of *La Sylphide* (which he has already re-staged in Marseille and will soon present in Berlin) with productions of two other *Bournoisville* ballets. The National Ballet of Canada will give *Napoli* to open its thirtieth anniversary season at Toronto in November. The main changes Schaufuss will make to that are in the middle scene, set in the Blue Grotto.

He says: "Each time I go back to Copenhagen, someone asks me: 'What are you going to do with the second act?' and they usually add: 'Whatever it is, it can hardly be less good than we have.' I think *Bournoisville* himself cannot have been happy with it, because he continued to make changes. I shall present it as a sort of dream on Cennaro's part."

Something for a hero to do

"I plan to give Cennaro and Teresina more to do in the ballet in Act II, and to introduce the *Flower Festival* of *Gencano pas de deux* for them in Act III, which will leave more scope for other people to dance; that is, useful with a large company. Another change I shall make is to give Giovanni more to do. At present she has just one little scene in the first act, and it's embarrassing to tell a dancer to 'play' a character but you don't actually have anything to dance."

"Also, I shall have the two comic rivals coming back for the final celebrations instead of disappearing when they have been routed. That seems to me far more true to the Italian temperament, quarrelling one moment but drinking happily together soon afterwards. I spoke to Niels Bjorn Larsen about that, and he told me it used to happen like that in Copenhagen in the Thirties."

The other *Bournoisville* production Schaufuss is discussing is *A Folk Tale*. "Actually it's the one I always wanted to mount. It has a good story, good music, and more dancing than *Napoli*. The thing that has to be done is to give the hero something to dance. Traditionally he does not have a single step to do, which you simply cannot accept today."

As if that were not enough to occupy a man who is also at the height of his career as a performer, Schaufuss has been developing ideas for a possible television series on different styles of classical ballet. After his peregrinations, there can be few dancers with a wider practical experience of them than Schaufuss.

Television

Nice one, Shirl

Live from Two

BBC 2

The excitement of live television. Yesterday afternoon's Live from Two was to have had Shirley Williams, the media's favourite anti-heroine. But, as Shelley Robbe stumbled over the tele-prompter, it became clear that this might not be Shirley's plane from London — said for no doubt, from a Granada Television studio fund, not from the Social Democrat coffers — was late. TV Times might be overtaken by events.

And we were all set for 45 minutes of Jackie Collins' plugging her new novel, which it turned out, towards the end of the programme, when it was safe to offend without leaving an empty chair, was a story about women who were either virgins or tramps.

With the chance that Guy Croydon Crow-puller, or the Bernadette Belle, or which ever seat she finds, might not arrive in time, we had to hear all about Jackie Collins' father, who kept a copy of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* in a brown paper bag by his bed, and the miserable days of unemployment for Jackie.

We need not have worried. Of course she would be there. If we know nothing else about Shirley, it is that she is reliable, dependable, there on hand when we need her, and there she was, wearing, like a lost child found, wondering what all the fuss was about.

As soon as she had denied that she was nice, "I'm not particularly nice, but I try to be polite, which gives you the name of nice, which I do not like one little bit" — she was on nice form, ribbing the press, like Frank Sinatra's manager, for not taking man politicians to task for not coming through the hair. "I think every other man gets away with being bald or having a toupee (which she pronounced *toe*) or not toupee."

Otherwise she was sweet reason, admitting that she hadn't had a nose job, that she was waiting to rail a boy called John, nor any other son for that matter, and that she and her brother had been treated equally over the washing-up. She agreed with everything, except the change Mrs Rhoads: "I was talking to the audience before you arrived."

"Right," said Mrs Williams, nodding in agreement.

Then came the crunch, as the camera waited to roll. "What about Bernadette?" Shirley was expecting another question. "Croydon will be fought by the Liberals and we will support 'em," she said, and Bernadette? "Well, I don't know."

Nicholas Wapshott

Theatre

Triumph of violence

Restoration Royal Court

Proceeding in his mission of ripping the veil from our culture's classical sanctuaries, Edward Bond follows his exposures of Greek and Shakespearean tragedy with an un-musical Restoration comedy. The piece is subtitled "a pastoral", but anybody who swallows that is really being led up the garden path.

Lord Are, having grabbed the title of his father's death and run through his inheritance, is now lowering himself to a union with an iron master's daughter; and when we first see the preening young lord, he is arranging himself becomingly against a tree (rarely having seen one before) so as to achieve love at first sight and avoid the tedium of courtship. So far we are in a world of straight Restoration parody, for which Bond proves himself stylistically well equipped. More importantly than the bride, though, is the figure of young Bob, arriving from a foreign, leading us into the below-stairs society which is the play's main concern.

As I understand it *Restoration* has a clear objective: combining the history and philosophy, the history and the philosophy, the history and the philosophy, the history and the philosophy. Eventually everything worth translating in ancient Greek and Latin will have been Englished. But meanwhile work of noble tone must yet be done as the *Penguin Classics* are still eminently enjoyable to read in their own right. To meet the growing demand for them as teaching material, Betty Radice has given them fuller notes, updated bibliographies, more substantial introductions, bigger indexes, and appendices of learned material. She has started a programme of revising the history and philosophy. Eventually everything worth translating in ancient Greek and Latin will have been Englished. But meanwhile work of noble tone must yet be done as the *Penguin Classics* are still eminently enjoyable to read in their own right. 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The man at the centre of the dispute over Gibraltar—and the royal incident that happened 27 years ago

The king who upholds a nation's liberties

Madrid

By an ironic twist of fate the preservation of Spain's new liberties depends mainly on 43-year-old King Juan Carlos, General Franco's chosen successor.

When Franco died peacefully in his bed six years ago, surrounded by his generals and a handful of the faithful, the forces of a new Spain, eager for freedom, were ready to burst into life. But ranged against them were the heirs of Francoism... and first among them, the monarchy established by Franco himself.

In the ensuing years, and most recently in the abortive coup which shook Spain five months ago, King Juan Carlos has succeeded in standing Franco's intentions on their head. In Spain, he has become the bastion of democracy.

The new monarchy was born as one of Franco's most brilliant tricks, established mainly as a way to avoid infighting for the succession that could have endangered the Caudillo's peaceful possession of power for life.

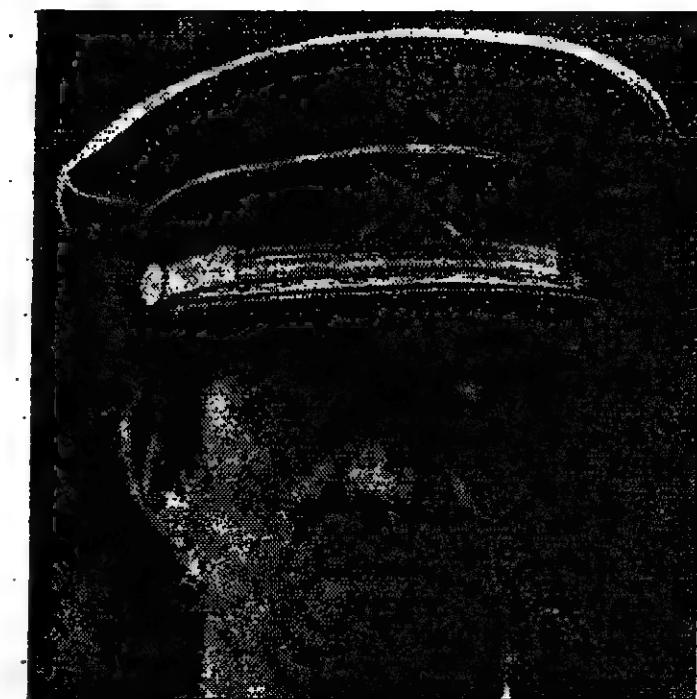
It worked. Franco died and his followers supposed the royal heir would be a crowned puppet at the head of a perpetual Francoism.

With this old guard on one

side and a people who never believed in monarchy on the other, the career of Juan Carlos looked unpromising at best. Two elements, however, were and remain on his side: a deeply felt decision by the Spanish people never to start the Civil War again, and the prestige of the monarchy among most non-political members of the officer corps.

The first free elections and referendums showed that pure Francoism was supported by no more than five per cent of the electorate. Apart from another minimal fraction on the extreme left, more than 90 per cent of Spanish voters since 1975 have been cast for anything but extremism. This almost unanimous will for peace has been the best ally of King Juan Carlos. And there is little doubt that his decision not to go to London to attend the royal wedding reflects the mood of the Spanish people over the Gibraltar issue.

Among the political groupings, democrats, faced with the choice of reforming or breaking the regime, have chosen peace and the King. Juan Carlos won a key battle in December 1976 when 94.5 per cent of Spanish referendum voters endorsed profound reforms that



Juan Carlos: bastion of democracy.

opened a wide road towards free elections, free parties and a new constitution.

Because the monarchy was the only institution able to lead the country along this road, democrats conceded that to attack the King was to oppose the country's peaceful progress. Monarchy and peace became intertwined.

For Franco's right-wing successors, to attack the monarchy was to attack the will of the people. Juan Carlos, though they and Juan Carlos knew that the monarchy could impose normality and peace only as long as it restrained the stalwarts of the old dictatorial regime, and as long as it kept the respect and obedience of the officer corps.

As the only apparent guarantor of the delicate historical process in Spain since 1975, Juan Carlos has done his best—and that has been a great deal.

He is leading a process, too, that becomes more diffi-

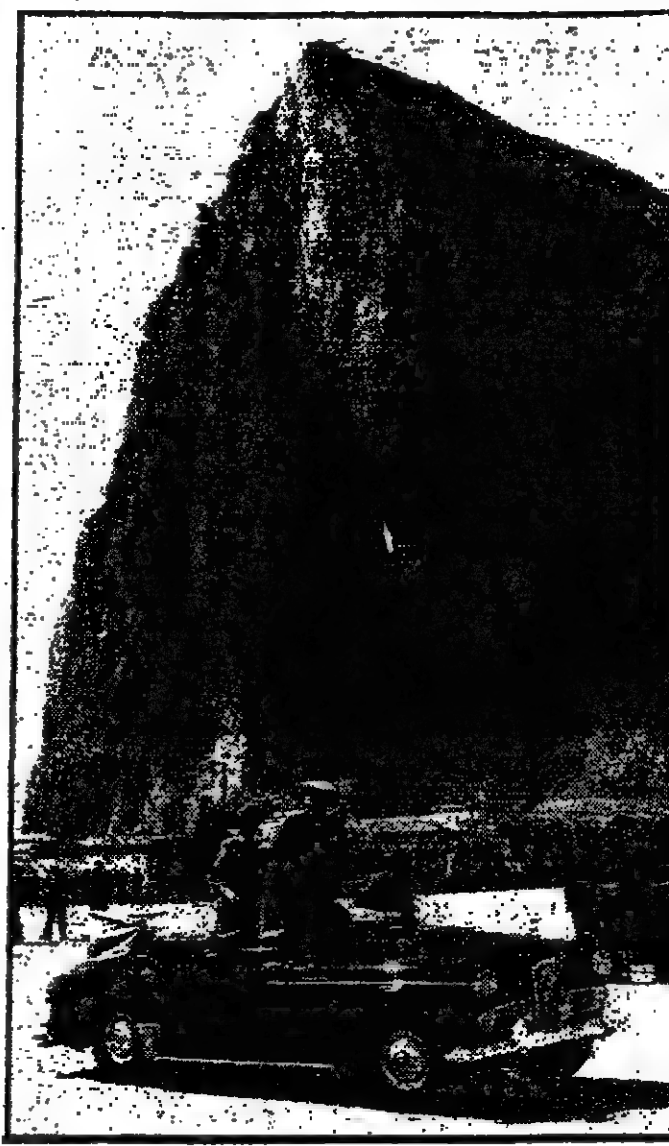
cult the more it progresses, as the world was reminded on February 23 when a group of military officers held Parliament hostage in Madrid and a lieutenant-general occupied Valencia with tanks.

The enemies of the new regime, although diminishing in number are still strong in certain key positions in government, judiciary, the police and even the officer corps. As they see their powers fade they feel increasing pressure to revolt.

There are two possible readings of the failed February coup. One is that the King has lost the allegiance of some part of the armed forces, thus endangering the whole process of peaceful transition.

The other, which I believe correct, is that the monarchy fought and won the inevitable battle with the fading Francoist forces.

The civil and military authorities fought. The press



The Queen and Prince Philip arriving in Gibraltar in 1954: there was trouble ahead.

fought. A few days later the people by the million staged huge demonstrations for peace and liberty. But the most telling blow was delivered by the King himself on the night of the coup attempt when, without any Government member who could help him, he acted with the force of personal authority and conviction.

Juan Carlos could easily have been made prisoner in Madrid on the night of the coup attempt, but not even the most extreme of the plotters tried to arrest him. The authority of the crown, with the bulk of the armed forces behind it, was enough to break the revolt.

A special correspondent

Franco: a snub for the Queen

by Stephen Harper

The clamour in Spain over the "transitory" visit of Prince Charles and his wife to Gibraltar was the last time the royal yacht Britannia visited Britain's only territory on the European mainland. That was in 1954 when the tiny fortress colony of The Rock was the last port of call on the Queen's coronation tour of the Commonwealth. The newly crowned queen, reunited with her toddler children Charles and Anne for the last week of a round-the-world cruise, stayed in Gibraltar for only one night.

Little thought was given at that time to Spain's susceptibility to a series of imperialist staging posts—British by right of conquest for some 250 years. The "winds of change" were yet to gather gale force.

The regime of General Franco was under universal boycott—scornfully left to wither as an internationally harmless survivor of the prewar fascist dictatorships.

The need of Spanish bases for America's bombers of the Strategic Air Command was soon to break the country's isolation, and bring about its industrial and sunshine boom of revolution. The Spanish dictator was determined not to be ignored. A virulent campaign for the return of Gibraltar was launched to coincide with the royal visit and the tumultuous welcome the Queen was given by the Rock's mainly Spanish speaking inhabitants.

A Dr Goebbels-style press and radio orchestration had most Spaniards agitated with the affront to their national pride. A book, hastily written by a member of the Spanish Royal Academy, was published with a lurid cartoon dustcover showing an evil-eyed monster octopus struggling with a Gibraltar bristling with artillery. Young-

sters of the fascist Falange were drafted into the front towns of La Línea and Algeciras to stage anti-British demonstrations. Severe harassment at Spanish border posts escalated until Franco ordered the frontier to be firmly closed the three days around the royal visit.

The paramilitary Guardia Civil patrolled the Spanish side of Algeciras Bay making sure no sightseers gathered at the Britannia's arrival and departure.

The hurt to Spanish prestige was widely felt. The claim of the return of the Rock was a (as now) the only thing which all Spaniards unite. For that time, Franco became obsessed with making the return of Gibraltar the crown achievement of his long rule. The frontier reopened the day after Britannia's departure. Things were never to be the same again. Pressure grew; Spanish forces were withdrawn causing great economic hardship in the Spanish frontier towns. In 1969 a referendum only 44 people of Gibraltar voted to join Spain with more than 17,000 against. Franco acted angrily, closing the frontier indefinitely, separating grandparents from visits to be grandchildren. The press siege of Gibraltar had begun.

Since Franco's death British efforts to find a formula for decolonization have seemed met seemingly insuperable obstacles. The inhabitants continue to reject any notion of Spanish sovereignty. The Spanish government, stubbornly refuses to meet British insistence on the reopening of the frontier before formal negotiations can start.

The anchor, a foreign correspondent for more than 20 years, was based in Gibraltar and the Spanish frontier in 1954.

Shake hands, the world is watching

Frank Johnson at the summit

Mr Pierre Trudeau's six fellow heads of Government arrived in his capital and shook hands in front of the television cameras. Then they disappeared into that big log cabin together and emerged for television again, shaking hands all round. They kept this up for two solid days, and then shook hands as if they were old friends who had not seen each other for years.

Eventually, they all appeared side by side on a stage and made statements for television. Then they went back to their respective countries in time to see themselves on television. The summit was therefore a reassuring occasion. Our leaders are human. Like most people, they just want to get on television.

No wonder the Japanese Prime Minister smiled manically all the time, as Japanese tourists in the world over want to do. For him, the event was good for business. His voters expect most of the world's television.

A modern western summit, then, is not a summit in the way that one remembers them as a child—with Eisenhower or Eisenhower or Sir Anthony Eden or Dulles all weightily deliberating over the fate of mankind in Geneva or wherever. When the first of the present series of western summits was held at Rambouillet in 1975, the event was indeed about something in particular. The effect of the increase in the price of oil. But the leaders rapidly discerned that such meetings served another useful purpose. They were a way of demonstrating to the voters at home that their president or Prime Minister was busy mulling around other Prime Ministers and Presidents solving problems. Or so their strategists have told them.

It is believed that presence at a summit is evidence of leadership. Yet Mr Ford, Mr Giscard, Mr Carter and Mr Callaghan—figures suffused in leadership at earlier annual summits—all lost office at their subsequent elections.

Mrs Thatcher undoubtedly understands this. Her attitude towards summits is thus rather like one's attitude towards certain recurring cocktail parties. She goes because everybody else goes. Her statement at the end was the second best of the lot because it was the second shortest, after Mr Reagan's, which was therefore the best. But, to this observer, Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher were convincing figures among the other colleagues for a reason other than brevity.

All the others were progressively in one form or another, or at least felt it necessary to appear so. But, though they had no choice but to agree to many a liberal ploy in the final communiqué, Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, being positively conservative, had what Edmund Burke described as "the suspicious glance". Putting it rather less eloquently than Burke, this is the ability to look at something apparently admirable and to see that it is not quite kosher.

In their various public statements, Mr Trudeau, M. Mitterrand, even (though to a lesser extent) Herr Schmidt, in effect promised the Third World the earth—though at some carefully unspecified date. Or at least their words assumed that it was within the West's gift to cure the globe's innumerable poverty. But, when reading between

the lines of Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, still more when listening to what their officials were privately saying, there was a hint of the suspicious glance.

What chance was there that the money would be spent by the Third World's rulers on the Third World's poor? What were the true causes of the Third World's poverty? Could it not be that they lay in the Third World's practices, much of them beyond Western help?

The American and the British had a similarly melancholy, realistic attitude towards the other great topic: high interest rates. Certainly they were painful. Perhaps there was nothing else that could be done.

Like Mrs Thatcher, Mr Reagan had a similar attitude towards the importance of summits as a place where decisions were made. They were places where you got to understand people, she told her own press conference.

There was probably some truth in this. It is probably difficult later to quarrel with some fellow head of government, beset by the same troubles, with whom you have shook hands, squeezed elbows and generally rubbished each other for 48 hours.

So we observers watched these jostles intently—noting, in the early rounds, if all the heads of government knew who in the general melee were the other heads of government, for in the jostling there were also foreign ministers, finance ministers and various pen-pushers from the diplomatic services. At all summits, one is fascinated by the Italian—this year it was Signor Spadolini—for he is the one who most understands the transient nature of temporal power. Would Mr Reagan correctly

identify this year's. After initial hesitation, he settled for a big guy who was speaking Italian. Broadly correct. But even if he had guessed and grabbed the wrong hand, the Italian vote back home goes mainly to the Democrats anyway. Mr Suzuki beamed at everyone, but probably we all look alike to him. A microphone caught Mrs Thatcher saying: "I'm so sorry, I didn't see you there." She had walked straight past M. Mitterrand. A bad one, that, so early in the contest. But she recovered to shake his hand incessantly for two days.

Eventually, the final appearance on the stage. One arrived early to get a seat near the front, for it is not every day you can stare up at every twitching vein and flared nostril of the seven leaders of the free world.

Mr Trudeau turned out to be more interesting, more world-weary, and the appealingly modish, 1960's figure he was when we first heard of him. M. Mitterrand had that air of French politeness, used to flicker across the cinema newsreels in the days when French Governments were always falling, an air of Gauloise fags and intrigue. Indeed, he was one of those politicians on the news reels.

Mrs Thatcher was glacial. Mr Reagan a stupendously regular guy. Dear Spadders spoke interminably for Italy like a man getting in his shout because he did not expect to be at the replay next year. Herr Schmidt doodled. That was as it should be. Ottawa satisfyingly confirmed every national stereotype.

When Crown Prince Akihito of Japan arrived in London, he was greeted by a crowd of people. He was wearing a dark suit and a white shirt. He was smiling and looking towards the crowd.

The King, who as a young man had seen a lot of the East, hoped his guest was enjoying himself and added: "No gettins' here, though. I'm afraid. Her Majesty would never allow it."

Hirohito loved it all. He said later that it was in Britain that he first came to know freedom; and it was here that he acquired his lifelong habit of eating bacon and egg breakfasts.

More discord

Long-suffering residents of the Barbican have finally lost patience. I hear, with the City of London Corporation over the £140m arts and conference centre there, which has taken 10 years to construct.

The noise and the dust were one thing; what really miffs some of the 4,000 occupants is what they regard as a broken promise of tickets for the Barbican Orchestra.

In February the City Corporation decided that people who had suffered most of the inconvenience during the building work should be recompensed by being invited to acoustic test performances by the LSO. The second will be given before a full house of 2,000 tomorrow, but still a number of the residents have not received tickets.

One resident told me: "We were told we would get preferential treatment, and we are very angry that we have still not been invited."

THE TIMES DIARY

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when the King entered Hirohito's suite at breakfast time wearing an open-necked shirt, trousers with braces and a carpet slipper—a sort of regal Alf Garnett outfit.

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told we would get preferential treatment, and we are very angry that we have still not been invited."

Angus Watson, spokesman for the centre, said: "We are not at war with the residents. They are potentially one of our most important audiences. We just haven't been able to cope with applications."

Slow gin?

Lunch at L'Escargot—and I think that must have started it all. Waiting for me back at the office was a letter from Derek Walters, of Tottenham, with a still more horrific drink than Cyril Ray's concoction of warm gin with hair in it. Mr Walters attributes this one to the Jersey Federation of Women's Institutes, and gives it the label Snail Syrup.

Ingredients: 12 live snails, 1 lb moist brown sugar. Live snails, 1 lb moist brown sugar. Live snails, 1 lb moist brown sugar. Live snails, 1 lb moist brown sugar.

One resident told me: "We were told we would get preferential treatment, and we are very angry that we have still not been invited."

61 suppose it's what she'll have to turn into

LADY DIANA WALKER

them with the sugar into a muslin bag, then hang the bag in a position so that the syrup drips into a basin.

I have never been to the Channel Islands and I don't think I shall go. Instead, I telephoned Dr Philip Koch, managing director of Koch-Light laboratories, who manufacture snail digestive juice (at £8.65 a millilitre) for use in medical research. He studied when I told him about the snail syrup. "The snails must be in pain poor things," he said. "They would secrete a kind of slime which would act on the sugar. Not my cup of tea, if you see what I mean."

I turned for comfort to a letter from Robert McConnell, one of our readers in France. I wish I hadn't

His letter related a journey he made to Thailand last year, and a meal in a restaurant where customers choose their food from live animals on wire cages: jungle squirrels, mongooses, frog, snake or turtle. Much again my better judgment, I read on.

"My hosts selected a cobra dish for the table. A suitable specimen was selected from a mass of seedling, left about the snake and moved from the cage. It was dispatched by swift decapitation, and the blood drained into a small tumbler. (I knew what was coming.) The body of the snake passed into the kitchen and the blood-filled tumbler placed before me as the table.

"A tot of scotch was added and being the guest, I was invited to drink for 'health and vigour'. This is apparently quite an honour."

Mr McConnell says, villainously, this tasted rather like—well, blood with a dash of scotch. Dare I suggest: "Whisky Drac"? (John Dennis 1657-1734, said: "A man who can make so vile a pun would not scruple to pick a pocket." He was right.)

Opening out

You can't go to a London first night these days without having "caviar food" at the party afterwards. First it was Barnum, with circus food—whelks, mussels, cockles and vinegar. At Charles Charmant's Challenges it was strawberries and ice cream. Next came One Mo' Time, with a couple of dishes such as gumbo (fish soup with Mississippi water added). And on Tuesday, after the Oldham Coliseum production of One Night Stand at the Apollo, we had Lancashire hot-pot and best bitter. I'm not complaining, just relieved that the show I'm seeing tomorrow is not a first night. I'm going to Cans.

Peter Watson

"Let's not confuse ostentation," I said, "with style."

There was little danger of that, I reflected, as I looked again at the pocket watch she handed back to me.

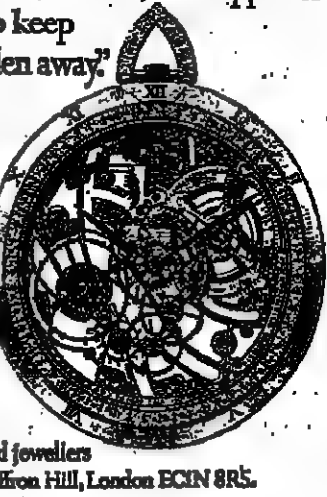
The symmetry of the sixty diamonds encircling the intricately hand-carved movement, punctuating each minute with a sparkle of pure light. The miniature wheels within the transparent case, moving the hands in perfect motion. A delicate evolution of function into decoration.

"But what a shame," she remarked, as I slipped it into my pocket, "to have to keep something so beautiful hidden away."

Perhaps she has yet to discover that pleasure in ownership can come as much from private contemplation as public display.

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DOWN FROM FUDGE MOUNTAIN

Everybody smiled for the cameras at Ottawa and the smiles were not as faked as in previous summits. But the general feeling of success lay in what was left out of the communiqué, not what was put in. The Japanese Prime Minister smiled because there is no criticism of their selfish trade policies; once again they have managed to postpone for a year any action against them. The Americans are pleased that there is no demand for them to cut interest rates. The Germans are pleased they can go on trading with the Russians. Mrs Thatcher is pleased to proclaim her affinity with President Reagan. But the sweetness was managed only by avoiding or blurring a commitment to do anything positive about the world's economic disorders. The leaders have descended from Fudge Mountain.

The political side of the summit offers more hope than the economic. There does seem to be a convergence on the double track approach which combines strengthening of Western armed forces with negotiations with the Soviets. Mitterrand is a marvellous stiffener for weakening European spines. There was quite a good compromise on the North-East issue which is not unrelated: many Europeans have been worried that if Mr Reagan returns to the old American policy of dividing the developing world into friends and enemies he will drive non-aligned countries into the arms of the Russians, precisely the opposite of what he hopes to achieve. The American promise to look at global negotiations is only a small step, but a useful one.

The communiqué makes statements about employment, inflation, currency, and interest rate disorder. But they are no more than interesting tea-leaves. The declaration that unemployment and inflation must be tackled at the same

time is quite different from Mrs Thatcher's line which is that inflation must be beaten first and that unemployment should be tackled later. Where there is agreement with Mrs Thatcher's policy is the case for low and stable monetary growth. But the communiqué also says that there is a need for an appropriate mix of policy: monetarism alone is not enough. That is surely right. Fixation on economics, assigning a single, objective and devil take the hindmost, has brought us very modest returns for the losses suffered so far.

But there is a very low limit to what any national economic policy can achieve and this is where Fudge Mountain is a disaster area. The communiqué says that each country is aware of the problems that volatile exchange and interest rates can cause. So? No country, even if its awareness has passed the pain threshold, can do anything effective by itself. Neither in the communiqué nor in the press conferences did the leaders do more than wring their hands. Every country is left to continue pursuing its own national interest, as it sees it, which, Adam Smith notwithstanding, will end up internationally in the interests of nobody. Instead of working towards a strategy of international monetary cooperation, as we urged last week, we are in for a period of crisis management which merely guarantees that there will be more crises.

Herr Schmidt complains that interest rates have never been higher since the birth of Christ and he is right that the extremely high rates in the United States will damage his economy and ours. If we compete on interest rates we will restrict private industry. If we do not, we will either have to let the exchange rate fall or draw on reserves and there are not enough of them. It is absurd to rail against the

Americans. They see interest rates as a weapon against their inflation and it is unrealistic to expect them to relinquish it. The only sensible course is to insulate interest rates from exchange rates by currency stabilisation agreements; Lord Lever in *This Times* last week sketched out one approach which envisages the creation of an international bank to cushion currencies against the volatility of the enormous internationally mobile funds.

This is where summits are presently organized are so disappointing. There is no mechanism for the conversion of rhetoric. There is none because the leaders' minds are never sharply focused on a single fundamental issue. The summit travel from capital to capital to prepare the communiqué but then they and their leaders leave it to the national bureaucracies where everything withers.

Mrs Thatcher seems to have developed good relations both with the European leaders and with President Reagan. There are two clear opportunities here. First, she should persuade President Reagan to take a lead on the creation of a secretariat to prepare a working paper on currency stabilisation for the next summit in France and to be in a position to follow through afterwards. Secondly, as a contribution to an international agreement on exchange rates, and for its own sake in the short term, she should instruct the Bank of England and the Treasury to prepare at once for our entry into the European currency system. It could be the first building block.

If we, and the other countries, continue to believe that there is a unilateral solution to the multilateral problems we are doomed to seeing the dole queues grow, the corrosion of political cooperation, and a very serious threat to the stability of our societies. That is a measure of the failure of the Ottawa summit.

ROYAL YACHT HITS ROCK

The explanation given by the Foreign Office for the cancellation of King Juan Carlos' visit to London to attend the royal wedding does not stand up to scrutiny. To say, as the Foreign Office does, that Gibraltar is merely a convenient place to begin a honeymoon cruise in the Mediterranean simply will not do. Nor will the suggestion that the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales on the Rock will be a "private matter". Spanish sensitivities over the question of Gibraltar could hardly be plainer, and were restated by the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor Pedro Perez-Illorca, when he met Lord Carrington in Brussels last week.

Britain and Spain have been moving toward some common ground over Gibraltar since the Lisbon Agreement in April last year. That agreement provided for the lifting by Spain of restrictions on the movement of people and goods across the Spanish frontier with Gibraltar. It thus paved the way for possible eventual negotiations on the territorial status of Gibraltar, despite the fact that the two sides remain as far apart as ever. Negotiations of this kind are very much a matter of atmosphere, and the creation of a relatively optimistic atmosphere had enabled Juan Carlos to undertake the visit to this country for which both sides have been

working for some time. To risk setting back this slow and difficult progress towards an accommodation between Spain and Britain is a bad blunder.

The Royal family is constitutionally bound to take government advice when travelling abroad. Hence there are several possible explanations. One is that the Government failed to anticipate the Spanish reaction, and felt too committed by the time Madrid made its feelings clear. This would be inexcusable incompetence. Another possibility is that the Government did know what would happen but did not care, which would be worse. A third — worst of all — is that the Government knew there would be trouble but deliberately advised the Palace to go ahead in order to demonstrate how irrational the Spanish attitude towards Gibraltar is. This seems unlikely but is widely believed in Spain. The only explanation which would let Britain off the hook is that the Spanish Government misjudged its own public opinion by indicating informally that it would turn a blind eye.

Whatever the explanation, Anglo-Spanish relations have been impaired at a time when Spain's links with western Europe are of critical importance. It is, after all, only six months since Spain narrowly survived an attempt at a military coup. The fact that Spanish democracy remains

intact is very largely due to the standing ability and determination of King Juan Carlos himself. More than anyone, the Spanish Monarch has steered Spain through the post-Franco years. Spain's potential entry into the European Common Market and its prospective membership of NATO are part of Juan Carlos' policy of seeking to ensure that the seeds of democracy flourish in healthy soil, within the framework of the European community and the Western alliance. The presence of the Spanish King in London would have been a small but significant step in that direction.

The ill-advised decision to use Gibraltar as a stepping off point for the royal honeymoon has left Juan Carlos with little choice but to bow to pressure from Spanish public opinion, especially on the right wing. The incident need not damage either Anglo-Spanish relations or Spain's ambitions in Europe in the long term. But it has clumsily and unnecessarily set back modest hopes for limited movement on an apparently intractable and complex issue. There are after all a number of points in the Mediterranean at which the royal yacht could have called. To make an issue out of Gibraltar casts a shadow over what should have been a joyous occasion untouched by political considerations.

A HELP TO STEADY THE NERVES

There has been a remarkable improvement in relations between the British and Irish Governments over the past few days. The week began with rumours that the new Government in Dublin was considering recalling its Ambassador from London in protest at the British handling of the hunger strike in the Maze prison. Whether this was a true reflection of ministerial feeling in Dublin or simply an indication of the political pressures upon the Taoiseach and his colleagues, this was a disturbing sign of the rift that might be created between the two governments if the hunger strike were to continue indefinitely.

Since then the position has changed radically. Dr Carrut Fitzgerald, the Irish Prime Minister, speaking in the Dail on Tuesday night, made it clear that he was no longer at odds with the British Government. He deeply regretted that the strikers had rejected the offer from British officials to clarify what conditions would apply in the prison if the strike was called off; he believed that the strikers were attaching unrealistic conditions to their demands; and he acknowledged that the

action his Government required of Britain had in fact been carried out. This was a reference to the visit paid by an official early yesterday morning to the Maze so as to make the offer clear to the prisoners.

This new turn of events is reassuring for two reasons. Good relations between London and Dublin are to be valued for their own sake. The hunger strike has been a serious impediment, and may still be damaging in the future because of the need for Irish ministers to make concessions to sections of their own public opinion from time to time. But Dr Fitzgerald has acted with courage and discretion to minimise any damage.

The second ground for reassurance is that Dr Fitzgerald's remarks might help to steady the nerves of those in Britain who might otherwise have been tempted to appease the hunger strikers. There can be no doubt that the strike has proved a very considerable propaganda benefit to the IRA. Few events are likely to have a more dramatic effect on international opinion than young men deliberately sacrificing their lives for their

cause. Any reasonable steps that could be taken to bring the strike to an end would be abundantly justified. But the British Government would be most unwise to get itself into the position of being pushed from one concession to another in the hope of meeting their demands.

The British authorities have rightly decided not to grant the basic demand of the strikers for political status, and the impression has been created that the strikers have hardened their position whenever any compromise short of that demand has been in prospect. For the British Government to negotiate directly with the strikers, as they are now asking, would therefore give the IRA another propaganda victory without any grounds for believing that the strike could then be ended except by conceding the basic point. The strike can serve the IRA's interest in two ways. So long as it lasts, it gives them great propaganda; and if it is bought off on their terms, it will increase their standing at home and abroad. It would be futile for the British Government to stumble out of one trap straight into the other.

How a community polices itself

From the Chief Constable of Warwickshire
Sir, I read with interest your informative article published on July 15, 1981, in *The Times* on the subject of the CBI's proposals concerning manpower reductions in the public service. You also reported Sir Leo Pataky's views (July 15), which were to the effect that the CBI's aspirations were unrealistic and unachievable. It is important to our future as a free and politically stable country that people should be persuaded that the CBI's proposals are practicable. We need desperately to find new money for investment in modern public services and for the refurbishment of our dilapidated and depressed urban areas. We cannot do that if we preserve the gross overmanning which exists in the public sector. Over the last 20 years technology has advanced at a rate which causes older people to catch their breath in astonishment. The effect of this advance has been to make it possible to reduce, significantly, the number of people required for manual and office work in the same 20 year period the number of people employed in local authorities has risen by 80 per cent and in central government and public corporations, excluding nationalized industries, by over 45 per cent.

Almost all companies which are still trading in the private sector have been forced to reduce their payrolls by amounts which would have been considered inconceivable two years ago. My own company has reduced its labour force by 25 per cent in 18 months. Yet we are trading at the same level of turnover, and although still feeling the effects of the recession, we are much more efficient and poised to take advantage of the upturn when it comes. Never again will we return to the mindless levels of unemployment which have been the result of our complacency dictated in times now passed.

I know from my own experience as Director of Manpower and Productivity Services at the Department of Employment that the CBI is not preaching nonsense. A 10 per cent manpower reduction in our public services is easily obtainable, given the necessary management ability and will.

A further, but temporary, increase in the numbers unemployed should not deter us. By releasing large numbers of under-employed people in the public service we can also release vast funds for the re-employment of people in new enterprises, both public and private.

The preservation of unnecessary jobs prolongs the unemployment of those who could and would work in new ventures.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BIRCH,
Chief Constable's Office,
PO Box No 4,
Leek Wootton,
Warwick.
July 20.

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)
Sir, The sympathies of all good citizens must go out to the police at the present time. They have been doing a magnificent job during the recent riots, which were on a scale and of a character previously unknown in England. It is a tribute to the police that they have coped with such a task without proper equipment, and the Home Secretary has promised to put right.

Much consideration is being given to any further steps which can be taken to improve police morale and efficiency. I have one suggestion to make: let the police introduce an officer class into their ranks, such as there was under Lord Trenchard, with a college to recruit and train officers specifically.

Although the benefits of this step will take some time to give results I believe it would have a tremendous effect on the whole police force. Quite apart from civil disturbances, the growth of violent crime, burglary, drug peddling, etc., is now on such a scale that the police must be led by highly trained officers of high educational background to enable them to bear full comparison with officers in HM Forces.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons.
July 20.

From Mr Terence Lewis
Sir, The police force are taking a fair amount of criticism at present, mainly directed at their community relations. Working in a very busy "front-line" hospital we see the force from a different viewpoint. They provide protection for our portering, nursing and medical staff, often under very difficult circumstances, but there is one specific way in which their immediate cooperation saves lives: they give blood.

Very occasionally, after a particularly difficult heart operation, a patient will not stop bleeding. Freshly taken blood transfused into these patients usually has a dramatic effect. This has been the case on two occasions in the last six months. By chance the first was the day of the first riot, the second during the rather more generalized London disturbances, both in the middle of the night. Prompt donation of fresh blood by a large number of police officers, already under considerable stress, has undoubtedly saved several lives.

The staff of this unit are very grateful for this entirely voluntary aspect of their community relations, as are the patients.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE LEWIS,
Department of Cardio-Vascular and Thoracic Surgery,
The London Hospital,
Whitechapel, E1.
July 17.

Blind eye to murder

From Sir Edward Playfair

Sir, Reading Tom Bower's interesting article (July 13-17) and comparing Germany as it is today with what it was at the end of the war, I am struck by how right we were to prefer reconstruction to retribution when the choice, as so often, had to be made.

The late Sir Arthur Street, who was my Permanent Secretary in the Control Office for Germany and Austria, had a very clear sight of the situation. He was one of the RAF officers who were shot after the attempted escape from Stalag Luft III. His reaction was to volunteer for the Control Office post, in order to devote himself to reconciling the recurrence of such a tragedy. He must look down from heaven with some satisfaction at the results of his work.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. PLAYFAIR,
12 The Vale,
Chelms, SW3.
July 18.

New attitudes to manning levels

From Mr G. H. B. Cattell
Sir, Last week (July 14) you reported the CBI's proposals concerning manpower reductions in the public service. You also reported Sir Leo Pataky's views (July 15), which were to the effect that the CBI's aspirations were unrealistic and unachievable. It is important to our future as a free and politically stable country that people should be persuaded that the CBI's proposals are practicable. We need desperately to find new money for investment in modern public services and for the refurbishment of our dilapidated and depressed urban areas. We cannot do that if we preserve the gross overmanning which exists in the public sector. Over the last 20 years technology has advanced at a rate which causes older people to catch their breath in astonishment. The effect of this advance has been to make it possible to reduce, significantly, the number of people required for manual and office work in the same 20 year period the number of people employed in local authorities has risen by 80 per cent and in central government and public corporations, excluding nationalized industries, by over 45 per cent.

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The preservation of unnecessary jobs prolongs the unemployment of those who could and would work in new ventures.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON JAMES, Chairman,
Arthritis Care,
6 Grosvenor Crescent, SW1.

From Mr Michael Norman
Sir, It is gratifying to see one's name in print in *The Times* newspaper of record for the first time (University of Kent results, July 18). It is surely going to be decades before one has another chance of such prominence — if ever — as one swims in a sea of three million unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NORMAN,
The Coach House,
Hammerwood Park,
East Grinstead,
Sussex.

Failure of monetarism?

From Lord Harris of High Cross
Sir, I agree with Lord Vazey (July 20) that David Blake (article, July 13) is in too much of a hurry to bury "monetarism". In his zeal to prove the failure of the British "experiment", your Economics Editor tries to enlist such leading practitioners of monetary policy as Germany and Switzerland among its opponents.

His reasoning is that they permit short-term increases above their monetary targets. Yet a few paragraphs later he taunts British policy with permitting excessive money growth to the point of raising doubts that "monetarism has not even been tried".

Likewise, in his search for hostile witnesses, Mr Blake summons the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Bank for International Settlements for the prosecution. Yet, in his acknowledgements, none of these central bankers in practice scorns monetary policy. Their criticism is that too much is being asked, or expected, of the necessary policy of controlling the money supply. All monetarists I know would agree.

Now your Economics Editor has come round to accept that "monetarism is not enough", might he launch a discussion on the desirable supporting policy of removing obstacles to growth in real output? The more we can reduce unit costs (including rates and taxes), the further will given money supply go in buying more goods and employing more labour.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
House of Lords.
July 20.

Irony in Ottawa

From Professor H. W. Singer and Professor A. R. Jolly
Sir, Your Washington Correspondent, Nicholas Ashford (July 16), pointed out that at the Ottawa summit of the Western countries President Reagan would be saying to the other leaders: "Trust us to put our own house in order and this will help you to put your own houses in order". He also reported the scepticism of the European countries to this approach.

Do you realise that this is precisely what the industrial countries argue in relation to Third World countries, and none more so than the UK? We say, in effect: "We must first put our own house in order; then we can resume our growth and help you put your own house in order."

If we Europeans are sceptical about the Americans putting their own domestic order first, can we not understand the developing countries being sceptical about our approach to their problems? Is there not a lesson here from the Ottawa meeting for the coming Mexican summit in October? Yours faithfully,
H. W. SINGER,
RICHARD JOLLY,
The Institute of Development Studies,
University of Sussex,
Brighton, Sussex.

Support for literature

From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council

Sir, Your leader (July 18) calls literature's slice of the Arts Council cake "mean" and states that this is because publishing "in theory, at any rate, is still a commercial enterprise". I do not believe that this factor has shaped the policy of the literature panel. However, whereas dance, drama and music must rely mainly on the Arts Council for support, literature is very heavily supported by libraries, which are separately funded.

The grants and awards of the Arts Council are made for the benefit of the public rather than for the sole benefit of the artists, performers or writers. Literature policy is based on the opinion of the panel that what is needed at present is not more writers but more readers.

Meanwhile Mr Ian Rowland Hill (July 20) has read a forecast in *The Times* (July 14) of how the Arts Council might meet a reduction of its grant in real terms. He picks on one suggestion, described by *The Times* as a "soft option", that the council might stop funding the literary arts. He deduces that the

Would *The Times* please thunder a little in support of the brave proposition now advanced by our industrialists, who are preaching what they themselves now practice?

Yours faithfully,
G. H. B. CATTELL,
19-23 Knightsbridge, SW1.

From Mr Gordon James
Sir, We have noted with considerable anxiety the intention to relax the statutory requirement that companies employing 20 or more staff should employ three per cent disabled persons.

Whilst it is a common fact that a percentage of companies do not comply with the statutory requirement, it is our experience that the most reputable companies make some effort to offer a contribution to society by employing as many disabled people as they can in a variety of jobs.

We in Arthritis Care are particularly concerned at what can only be considered a retrograde step, particularly when our prime concern is to assist arthritic sufferers to remain useful members of the community.

None of the statements supporting the intention to abolish the statute gives any valid reason for eliminating it, and at the present time, when there are many other massive drains on the economy, I consider that every effort should be made to continue faithfully to employ people who are not only anxious to make their contribution, but would otherwise be yet another, unwilling, liability on the nation.

I trust therefore no retrograde action will be taken in this matter, without full discussion, not only with industry but with the welfare bodies, such as ourselves, who are working under ever-increasing financial strains to employ a very considerable number of disabled people to continue to earn an honest living.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON JAMES, Chairman,
Arthritis Care,
6 Grosvenor Crescent, SW1.

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Sir, It is gratifying to see one's name in print in *The Times* newspaper of record for the first time (University of Kent results, July 18). It is surely going to be decades before one has another chance of such prominence — if ever — as one swims in a sea of three million unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NORMAN,
The Coach House,
Hammerwood Park,
East Grinstead,
Sussex.

The truth is we are not the narrow, simple best of Mr Blake's imagination. We would certainly argue that a continuing policy of monetary restraint is essential to bring down inflation. But apart from reducing distortions and uncertainties about the course of future prices, monetary policy alone does not solve the problems of the real economy. There remains the need to tackle the multiple sources of inefficiency that raise costs and reduce employment. This points to more radical reform in nationalized industry and welfare, trade unions, central and local bureaucracy, and many aspects of planning and regulation.

Now your Economics Editor has come round to accept that "monetarism is not enough", might he launch a discussion on the desirable supporting policy of removing obstacles to growth in real output? The more we can reduce unit costs (including rates and taxes), the further will given money supply go in buying more goods and employing more labour.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
House of Lords.
July 20.

VAT on building repairs

From Mr Leslie K. Watson

Sir, Mr Richard Hayes's letter (July 14) asking for repairs to churches to be exempt from value-added tax prompts me to put the case for buildings which are "listed" on account of their architectural or historic interest. An owner need not be informed or consulted before his building is listed; but he is suddenly saddled with restrictions which will probably reduce its market value. He is expected to keep it in good repair, not to alter the fabric or its use, and not to demolish it without permission, which is frequently not given.

This heavy burden, which does not apply to owners of less important buildings, was imposed by Act of Parliament nearly 20 years ago in an effort to force owners of listed buildings to maintain them for the benefit of the general public but with no help from the state. This blatant disregard of natural justice could be alleviated if owners of listed buildings were excused from paying value-added tax on maintenance.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE K. WATSON,
Silver Birch,
West Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire.
July 16.

Spanish leave

From Mr M. S. Crowe
Sir, Perhaps it might have been more tactful to arrange for the Prince of Wales and his bride to join Britannia at Cadix, with a little fishing off the adjoining cape to follow.

Yours faithfully,
M. S. CROWE,
Sunnyside,
Frankfield,
Peaslake,
Guildford.
July 22.

Practical moderation

From Mr George Mikes

Sir, Nearly all the newspapers and many politicians (some with avuncular benevolence, others with irony tinged with envy) have remarked that all's very well but the time has come now when the SDP must publish its detailed programme and bring out a manifesto.

They are quite wrong. Millions of voters, I am sure, would be perfectly content to put our affairs into the hands of honourable, moderate and experienced men (and women), expecting them to carry on in a sensible and pragmatic manner on day-to-day or rather month-to-month basis.

It is natural that this should be so. Manifestos are the curse of both parties. The Government is more dogmatic and doctrinaire than old-fashioned Marxists because it has to stick to its programme. In the Labour Party one of the main struggles is about who should write the manifesto which according to the left, once written must become a sacred scroll.

I am sure the Social Democrats are on safe ground as long as they refrain from publishing a manifesto. What the electorate wants is a decent and honest non-programme. Besides, everybody knows that the only election promise not broken is the one never given.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
GEORGE MIKES,
16 Dorncliffe Road, SW6.
July 18.

Cricket

Spinners put Sussex firmly in command over familiar rivals

By Alan Ross
BIRMINGHAM: Warwickshire, with four wickets in hand, need 147 to beat Sussex.

Sussex, in their fifth consecutive day's play against Warwickshire, followed up their championship victory by making 96 minutes yesterday, winning the race and hitting first on a pitch of comparative pace they batted contentedly down the order to reach 274 for eight.

Whereas Warwickshire used seam bowlers throughout Sussex had their two spinners in at 50 minutes. Walter scored 66, Amis, Humpage and Lloyd, and Smith, Barclay dropping on a length, too. Warwickshire fell further and further behind. When rain swept in just before six o'clock Warwickshire were 102 for five after 36 overs and it seems only a miracle can save them today.

Barclay and Mendi got Sussex off to their usual good start, making 70 together under high grey clouds before Mendi was caught at cover. Barclay was caught at the wicket shortly afterwards, but Ian Greig now shared in three successive partnerships of 61, with Parker, 50 with Imran Khan, and 36 with Colin Wallis.

Greig, who has come in with leaps and bounds as an all-rounder this season, surprised all in comparison with Parker and later in his innings, with a series of stirring hits past extra cover, rather eclipsed him.

Parker, on this occasion scoring mainly off the back foot, was let before he reached 140, but Greig raced to his 50 in only 34 minutes. Imran announced himself with two handsome cover drives and was then caught in front of the pavilion off an immense skier.

With Wells as partner, Greig thrashed each bowler in turn. Wallis included, before giving Kallabharan another shining catch by the long-on boundary. Wells and Gould with several exciting strokes helped Sussex keep it going to the last over against Amis, whose defensive up-bat-

Cook brings Botham back down to earth

By Marcus Williams
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire, who were bowled out by seven wickets.

Northamptonshire topped the favourites in this NatWest Trophy match with a victory over Hampshire. After winning the toss and putting Somerset in, Hampshire were bowled out by seven wickets.

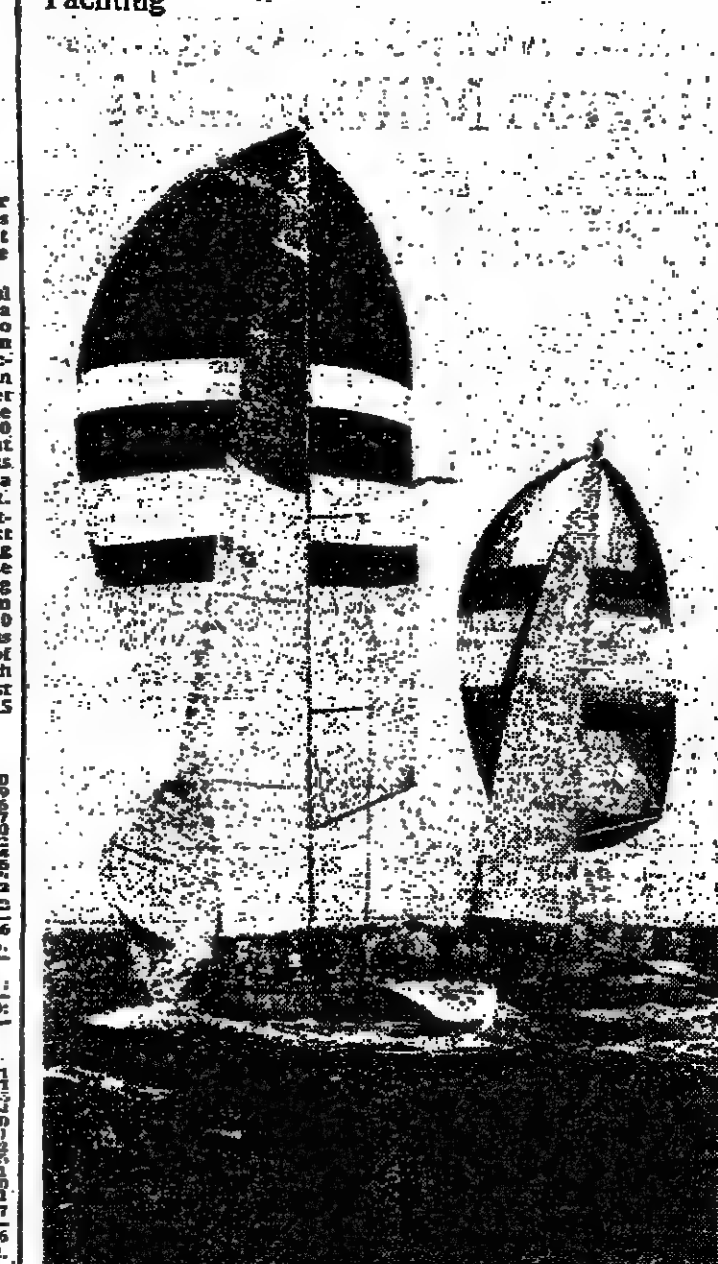
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Hampshire atone in a match of low scores

By Richard Soreton
CARDIFF: Hampshire beat Glamorgan yesterday when they decisively won a game of low scores with 4.1 overs to spare.

Hampshire reached the last eight of the Nat West Trophy yesterday when they decisively won a game of low scores with 4.1 overs to spare. Neither side batted particularly well but Hampshire stoned with more forceful outcries as Glamorgan found a target of 37 runs beyond their reach. Jesty, the acting Hampshire captain, was named man of the match.

Yachting



Kilroy was here, there and everywhere: his Kialoa (left) dominated the race despite a technical hitch.

Tennis Overworked face no overtime ban

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Players who represent Britain—used to or will do—are among more than 100 competitors who will spend the working week in long hours in group one of the inter-county championships at Eastbourne.

As every pair play three doubles matches a day, for five days, this is never a week for the ailing or injured: and two who have made the programme as congested that, the way things are going, the traditional injunction that 'play shall be continuous' must acquire a strenuous shift of emphasis.

East may find some comfort in the west today

By Alan Gibson
BRISTOL: Essex have scored 179 for nine against Gloucestershire in 52 overs.

There was no play until a quarter to four. There were times when I doubted whether there would be any play at all, as the severe weather, but in the afternoon, a wind came to break the clouds blowing over, and there was even some sunshine.

There was quite a large crowd, given the weather, and they were patient, but for a long time they had no news to cheer them, except that Broad and Baines had been awarded deserved Gloucestershire caps. Both sides, without their captains, Gravesey deputising for Procter, East for Fletcher.

Partnership of Kirsten and Hill could be crucial

By David Green
WORCESTER: Derbyshire, with six wickets in hand need 80 runs to beat Worcester.

Bad light followed by steady rain halted play, and the game was suspended. Derbyshire, who were bowled out by seven wickets, were 16 overs and three balls left to reach their target.

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SAIL: But it was not long before the sea was back in from again.

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Kent in a struggle for runs

By Peter Marson
CANTERBURY: Nottinghamshire, with all wickets standing, are 133 runs behind Kent.

The excellence of Nottinghamshire's bowling has been all else on the St. Lawrence Ground, yesterday, when Kent, having been invited to bat, were bowled out for fewer runs than they had scored in their first innings.

Yorkshire vs Sri Lankans

AT SHEFFIELD
YORKSHIRE: First Innings

Yorkshire, who were bowled out by seven wickets, were 16 overs and three balls left to reach their target.

Full status for Sri Lankans

By John Woodcock
CRICKET Correspondent

At Lord's yesterday, Sri Lanka were selected to play the first Test of the International Cricket Conference, a promotion which will give them the status of Test nation.

When 'if only' stories were talk of the day

By A Special Correspondent

In a force five breeze gusting to six, Jeremy Pudney and Nick Burgh in Windclipper yesterday on the most exciting race of the season.

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France singing in the rain

By Levine Mair

The was suspended for over three hours on the first of the qualifying days for the European women's amateur golf championship at Wentworth. Marie de Lamoignon, of France, had just posted an exceptional three under par 72 when the rain came down over her last five holes, gathered in intensity, and left several greens under water.

Evans bundled out first round

By Peter Marson
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Floyd is the player to beat

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Race does not live up to its name

By A Special Correspondent

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CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS

All dividends are subject to scrutiny. FOR MATCHES PLAYED JULY 1981

ZETTERS POOLS LONDON EC1

'NEXT BEST' MULTI-TOPS INCLUDE:

M.C. West Midlands £27,694.85 J.M. Belfast £16,355.60 N.A. Manchester £10,782.50

LOW STAKES MAKE WINNING EASIER

THE WORLD'S EASIEST TREBLE CHANCE

NO 25 POINT WINNERS

22 Pts £141.65
23 Pts £141.65
24 Pts £141.65
25 Pts £141.65

THE ONLY 25-11p CRICKET POOL

24 Pts £338.85
(100 BONUS for 250 runs)

23 Pts £188.25
22 Pts £188.25
21 Pts £188.25
20 Pts £188.25

3 Pts £11.20-22

34-37-41-48

EXPENSE AND COMMISSION FOR JULY 1981-38.7%

TELL YOUR FRIEND ABOUT YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR!!

ASK YOUR FRIENDS OR NEIGHBOURS

LITTLEWOODS POOLS LIVERPOOL

THIS WEEK'S TOP WINNERS FOR 22 1/2 PTS

£156,561 £164,491

£79,957 £76,226 £83,787

£83,787 £76,761 £76,850

TREBLE CHANCE - Max 23 Pts - No Client with 23 Pts.

TOP 10 FOR ONLY 22 1/2 Pts.

22 Pts £76,107-80
23 Pts £23,730-75
24 Pts £226-05
25 Pts £261-20
26 Pts £13-35
27 Pts £24-50

4 DRAWS £11-25
12 HOMES £58-25
6 ALWAYS £0-50

EXPENSE AND COMMISSION FOR JULY 1981-31.7%

TELL YOUR FRIEND ABOUT YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR!!

ASK YOUR FRIENDS OR NEIGHBOURS

VERNONS POOLS LIVERPOOL

THIS WEEK'S SUMMER 'DOUBLE TOP'

£266,363

£132,975 £133,388

8 GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE-5 DIVIDENDS

23pts (Max) £132,850-50
24pts £24,813-40
25pts £262-70
26pts £250-30
27pts £12-30

4 DRAWS £0-50 (NOTHING BARRED)
10 HOMES £35-95 (NOTHING BARRED)
6 ALWAYS £0-50 (NOTHING BARRED)

Above Dividends to Units of 10p. Expenses and Commission for July 1981-32.7%

ASK YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR FOR VERNONS EXCLUSIVE COUPONS WITH THE INSTANT COPY

Rugby Union

Controversy through the looking glass

From David Elias
Gisborne, July 22
Pretoria Bay 6 South Africa 22

The Springboks rugby tour of New Zealand has opened with a controversy on the field as well as the political row. The South Africans have developed a new lineout technique which could have been borrowed from Australian Rules football. In practice it was clear that the second row forward Heinnie Becker was being assisted into the air like a ballerina and so in the first lineout of the

The Springboks did not bother again but to even the score the Poverty Bay pack tried the same thing, having quickly mastered the technique in practice this week after watching the Springboks in training through binoculars from the first floor window of a nearby rugby clubhouse. They, too, were penalised.

Meanwhile, the South Africans scored a decisive 18-point victory, by two goals and three tries against two penalties, over Poverty Bay, although the result does not do justice to the New Zealanders.

In the heavy conditions, Poverty Bay played like a bunch of mud-

down and never came to terms with the mud. Their opponents went into the market as full steam.

Poverty Bay allowed the sticky ball to run loose where possible and chase it down in the often fulfilled hope that the Springboks would mishandle. They gained good possession from both the loose and the set pieces and for long periods, particularly during

The Springboks succeeded because of their superior finishing once they had gained the right possession.

lock three minutes before the end of the first half. The last wing, Darius Botha, was caught on the edge of a maul, from which the ball was spun through the back-line to Krantz. He skirted round the cover, chipped over the head of the full back, Muir, gathered again on the bounce and dived over the line.

Krantz added two tries in the second half, and Visser and Tobias also went over the Poverty Bay line. In the absence of Naas Botha, Beck and Tobias shared the kick-

Toulouse, July 22.—France's Rugby Union captain, Jean-Pierre Rives, is to have an operation on the dislocated shoulder he suffered during France's recent tour of Australia.

Rugby League TV deal

The Rugby League yesterday announced a new one-year agreement with Independent Television for the screening of league matches on Monday nights. Last year nine matches were shown on Yorkshire and Granada Television. This season there will be 16

Boxing

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia: Commonwealth Serpick (Canada) knocked out

Athletics

Two to catch

selectors' eye

David Moorcroft and David Jenkins plan to present Britain's athletics selectors with a Europa Cup problem at Crystal Palace tomorrow. Moorcroft, who has been recovering from an injury to another leg,

Jenkins has also returned to form after injury and is hoping the selectors will pick him for the final in Zagreb.

both the 400 metres and 4 x 400 metres relay. "The present 400 metres contingent is not strong," he said. "I've got the will to win and would like to run the individual 400 metres."

Six in tie in Queen's Prize

Six competitors, one of them Canadian, outshot the 1,200 in

the first stage of the Queen's Prize competition at Bisley yesterday, putting every shot into the bulls-eyes for the highest possible score, 105, with seven shot at 300, 500 and 600 yards. Our Rifle shooting correspondent reports. The six were: Vicki Boa of Toronto, Sandra Hind of the Old

Northinghamians Rifle Club, A. A. Jobling (Old Epsomians), D. B. Lumby (Manchester), E. J. Le Cheminant (Jersey), and Sergeant J. E. White (RAF).

Last year's winner, Alain Marion, shooting in the worst of the rain at 600 yards, missed the target twice to finish with 95.

RAAF 567, 2. Canadian Cardiac, Suite
3. Territorial Army, 504.
POLICE PISTOL TEAM CUP: 1.
Northumbria B, 1,025; 2. Northumbria
A, 1,025; 3. West Mercia, 1,019.
**STOCK EXCHANGE AGGREGATE
CHALLENGE CUP:** 1. J. P. Pellman
(Uppingham School), 14; 2. G. B. G.
J. & White (RAAF), 1-9; 3. A. Cusack
(Rushmore, Essex), 148.
BELGIUM CHALLENGE CUP: 1.
Barclay's Bank, 148, 577; 2. Marydalen

Cycling

SCOTTISH HEALTH RACE (1st 1/2)
Spring 53 miles:: Second place::
M. Ball (GB), 5hr 57 min 7sec::
M. Jurek (Czechoslovakia), same time::
S. A. Kozladinov (Czechoslovakia), same time::

time: 4. M. K1322 (Czechoslovakia).
 same time: 6 P Dennis (England).
 same time: Team positions: 2. Czechoslovakia, 11th. Cima 122: 2. Northern
 lands 11:55:54: 3. Great Britain.
 11:55:59. Overall: 1. Nostudmov.
 7:49:22: 2. Jurca 7:49:15; 3. J-Skoda
 (Czechoslovakia). 7:50:16: 4. K1322
 7:58:20: 6. Bell 7:58:45; 8. P Dennis
 (England). 7:58:34. Overall team: 1.
 Czechoslovakia. 23:29:5: 2. Northern
 Britain.

24:038.

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Tighter rules
for unit
trusts? Page 21

Business News

THE TIMES July 23, 1981

Little comfort
for Third
World, page 21

MPs press for action to end 'black economy'

By Melvyn Westlake

MPs are pressing the Inland Revenue to take tougher action to suppress the "black economy" — business activity that eludes the taxman, whether through moonlighting, casual working or other undeclared employment.

With such activity estimated by the Revenue to account for about 7.5 per cent of the nation's output of goods and services, costing £4,000m in lost tax, the MPs say, in a report published yesterday, that "there is a real danger of tax evasion coming to be regarded as socially and morally acceptable."

The consequences could spread beyond the limits of the "black economy" and they consider it important that the Inland Revenue should be seen to be making strenuous efforts to contain and reduce such activity.

The report comes from the Committee of Public Accounts, Parliament's watchdog on Government housekeeping, which is chaired by Mr Joel Barnett, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury in the last Labour Government.

Experts disagree about the size of the "black economy". Some believe that the figure of 7.5 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product is an exaggeration while others put it much higher than the Inland Revenue's estimate.

The PAC is worried that in trying to achieve predetermined targets for manpower levels the department might miss opportunities to increase the level of revenue that it collects. The committee believes that with a "black economy" running at around £4,000m there are areas where the deployment of additional resources would be likely to produce direct returns many times greater than the extra staff costs involved.

Of perhaps even greater consequence, the committee argues, is the likely effect on standards of compliance generally. Twelfth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, (HMSO, £3.90).

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CALL FOR BRITAIN TO JOIN EMS

It is high time Britain joined the European Monetary System (EMS), M Francois-Xavier Ortoli, vice president of the European Commission, said today when introducing the Commission's medium term economic policy programme for 1981-1985, which he had written as the Commissioner for Economic Affairs.

There were, he said, obvious obstacles to Britain joining the EMS, but these could be overcome and the advantages would outweigh the disadvantages. With sterling inside the "super-sack" it would help Europe to reach its goals and strengthen its institutions.

Negotiations should also be resumed with Greece on joining the EMS, although he felt that as a new member it had a number of adjustments to make before this might be possible.

Next year the Commission would be proposing it was time He wanted to see member states adopt a policy whereby all school leavers either had a job, a training programme or a sandwich course offered to them.

Break the pensions fettters, Jenkin urges

By Baron Phillips



Jenkin: effective way of freeing labour market.

Job mobility in Britain is being seriously hampered by pension schemes which penalize employees who change companies frequently, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday. He urged employers to break the "pensions fetters" and allow employees greater mobility without their losing tens of thousands of pounds. Mr Jenkin gave a warning that if pension schemes do not quickly remedy the situation, the Government will be forced to legislate.

Speaking at a London conference on Protecting the Pension of Job Changers, Mr Jenkin said: "Pension schemes, as at present conceived and run, put a huge premium on the man who makes his whole career in one firm. Conversely, they put a huge penalty on the man who decides, or is forced, to change jobs several times in his lifetime."

Calculations of the contributions needed for pensions are based on the assumption that only a limited number of people will qualify for a full pension. Mr Jenkin said: "The so-called early leaver pays for the man who stays on. He is not prepared to do so for much longer."

One of the most effective

ways of freeing the labour market is for employers to give better protection to early leavers, especially for middle and senior staff, the Secretary of State claimed. This would make a contribution to economic regeneration at a fraction of the cost of some of the more extravagant ideas presently in vogue.

He pointed out that some industries are already providing a measure of such protection. The Plumbing and Mechanical Services Industry Pension

Scheme, with 2,000 member companies, ensures substantial protection for people who move from one company in the scheme to another. The Motor Agents' Association runs a scheme in which employees' pensions are unaffected by the number of jobs they have held and pensions are based on final salary at retirement.

Some employees who leave companies before retirement are having to resort to an annuity contract taken out with an insurance group to protect their long-term benefits, Mr Jenkin said.

"It is a sombre thought for the pension fund movement that, even though it is customary for the employer to contribute twice as much as the employee, people are now believing that they could do better over a lifetime, making their own provisions."

The Government is proposing to legislate against companies temporarily giving up their contracting-out status to gain financial advantage at the expense of the National Insurance Fund, Mr Jenkin told the conference. New legislation would cancel a contracting-out certificate where it is clear the provisions of the regulations have been exploited.

BP joins in attack on North Sea policy

By Rupert Morris

BP and the British oil exploration companies joined forces yesterday in a strong attack on the Government's North Sea depletion policy.

They said that it was inconsistent, unclear and counter-productive. High taxes on North Sea operators, which amounted to a depletion policy, undermined confidence and delayed exploration and investment decisions, the companies told the Commons Select Committee on Energy.

"There is no question that the fiscal regime has had a profound effect on production," Mr Roger Bexon, BP managing director, said. "How can we make investment decisions when we don't know what Government fiscal policy is going to be?"

In its written evidence, BP said current measures on top of technical problems, had led to production slippages. Last year, for instance, only 80.5 million tonnes of oil were produced, compared with a 1975 estimate of between 100 million and 300 million tonnes.

BP recommends that if there has to be a depletion policy, it should be clear, and should allow maximum development to realize immediate economic benefits, thereby maximizing opportunities for developing alternative energy sources.

The encouragement of exploration and development by means of a well-regulated licensing system is urged to ensure that the five to ten-year lead time from discovery to commercial production should not lead to a decline in production in the late 1980s.

Mr Bexon told the MPs that if the Government wanted to

retain production flexibility, it could delay production of its own Royal Oil, without interfering with other commercial operations.

He said the Government should consider urgently how to replace the "Varley assurance" given in 1974, which set a 1982 limit on production cutbacks from discoveries made up to the end of 1975.

BP, which produced a third of the United Kingdom's oil, 540,000 barrels a day, last year, is also being asked by the Government to invest money in a gas-gathering pipeline for the North Sea. It has so far appeared reluctant to put up the money.

In its evidence yesterday BP called on the Government to undertake a complete review of gas policy, which it says is distorted by the British Gas monopoly.

Support for BP's views came from the Association of British Independent Oil Exploration Companies, which called for "an unequivocal statement" on depletion policy.

Giving evidence immediately after BP, the association concluded: "We believe it is unlikely that there will ever be a sufficient surplus of crude oil to justify depletion."

The association described the drop in oil consumption during 1980 as "disconcerting — the current surplus of production over consumption being 11 per cent — but added that this was probably a temporary phenomenon.

The companies emphasize the importance of using the new understanding of North Sea geology to drill more exploration and appraisal wells and more dry holes to find more essential fields.

Coffee hit by frost in Brazil

By Michael Prest

Commodities Correspondent. Coffee traders and processors yesterday struggled to assess damage wrought by two successive nights of frost in Brazil's coffee growing regions.

Reports that 20 per cent of Brazil's 1982/3 crop could have been destroyed sent prices soaring on London coffee markets. The price of coffee for immediate delivery was \$1.155 a tonne by the close of business yesterday, compared with \$1.063 on Monday.

But food manufacturers are cautious about the impact on prices in the shops. A spokesman for Nestlé, which has about 40 per cent of the British instant coffee market, said the company would not be making any decision until the extent of the frost was known.

Food sources stress that the cold weather and winds which struck the coffee growing regions at the beginning of the week have not harmed this year's crop, most of which is already harvested. The crop is estimated at 32.1 million bags. A bag is 60 kilograms.

Concern centres, however, on the next crop. Coffee trees in the states of Paraná, São Paulo, and Minas Gerais, have suffered damage to their leaves, buds and external branches.

But reports indicate that the trunks have not been harmed. This means they can return to full production in 1983-84.

The 1982-83 crop is officially forecast as between 27 million and 30 million bags. A full investigation of the damage is being undertaken by the Brazilian Coffee Institute, and will be ready next week. But tentative estimates put the damage at about 20 per cent of the crop, or 6 million bags.



Making
light work
of phone
calls

Many strands make light work of carrying thousands of telephone conversations. The optical fibre cable that technicians are carrying on do the same job as the heavy drum of standard telephone cable behind her. A trial system of the multistrand optical fibre cable, which carries telephone calls by laser light, is operating between British Telecom's research centre at Martlesham, Suffolk, and the exchange at Ipswich. For details of the fibre optics network, see page 20.

Government sells its British Sugar stake

By Michael Prest

The Government yesterday sold its 24 per cent holding in British Sugar Corporation for £44m to about 150 City institutions.

S. W. Berisford, the commodity trader whose £20m bid for British Sugar lapsed at the beginning of this month, added another 2 per cent to its stake, which now totals 40 per cent.

The investment institutions bought the shares in fairly small lots at 305p each. The price on Monday evening had been 318p, and it rose to 326p by the close of business.

Mr John Beckett, chief executive of British Sugar, said he was delighted by the sale of the Government stake, which had been depressing the company's share price. He said he had been pressing the Government to sell since its election.

His view was shared by Mr Gordon Percival, a director of Berisford, who said the sale ensured a fairer distribution of shares and removed an oddity from the market.

The placing was arranged by Lagard, the merchant bank advising the Government, and

executed by three firms of stockbrokers, Cazenove, Rowe & Pitman and Greenwells.

It ends a significant influence the Government has wielded in the industry since the formation of British Sugar in 1936. A major complication has been removed from any possible renewed bid by Berisford for British Sugar.

It is understood that Berisford is now interested in getting a director on the British Sugar board.

British Sugar has not received a formal request and Mr Beckett said the board's reaction to such a move would partly depend on its assessment of Berisford's intentions.

The rise in the British Sugar price after the sale was completed yesterday morning reflected the view long held in the market that the company, which has a forecast pretax profits of £49m this year, has been undervalued.

There is, however, another large stake in British Sugar which could be sold. The company's merchant bankers, Schroder, Wess, bought about 2.5 per cent during the takeover battle to support the price.

Private funding proposal on steel rationalization

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Use of institutional funds to achieve a rationalization of Britain's special steels industry is expected to be among proposals in a report to be published today.

The report is based on an investigation, undertaken by Professor Sir Frederick Warner, with the support of the Bank of England, into prospects for the special steels industry, concentrated principally in the Sheffield area.

Its publication follows a meeting yesterday between Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, over British Steel's progress toward its target of breaking even in 1982-83. Mr MacGregor last met members of the TUC Steel Committee.

Mr MacGregor emphasized the need for further extensive cost cutting throughout the corporation and said there could be no guarantee that there would not be further plant closures. The alternative, he emphasized, was a clear recognition of the problems and co-operation in reducing the still heavy losses being sustained as a result of low European steel prices.

British Steel has delayed its review of the corporate plan approved by the Government earlier this year because of uncertainty over the effectiveness of the latest measures introduced to stabilize the European steel market and boost prices.

Mr MacGregor, who told the steel union leaders that the corporation needed to make further cost cutting moves and manpower reductions, will prepare further plans and submit them to the energy secretary in September.

Mr MacGregor is known to be concerned about the failure of the Ravenscroft plant in Scotland to reach performance targets. Technical problems at the Redcar coke ovens and blast furnace at the corporation's Teesside works have made the targets difficult.

Although the Government is not involved in the special steels study, the Department of Industry has applauded the initiative toward reorganizing the industry.

The Warner study covered companies producing high-speed tool steels and stainless steels, which are widely used in the automotive, machine tools and aerospace industries. Such companies as Firth



Sir Frederick: Seeking to solve problem of overcapacity.

Brown, Neesend, Aurora Steels and Sanderson Kayser also have been concerned about the increase in imports from Scandinavia, Austria, West Germany and elsewhere.

The special steels companies employ between 2,000 and 3,000 workers. Their products range from stainless steel bars costing about £300 a tonne to alloy steels costing about £7,000 a tonne.

The Warner inquiry was launched in May after months of discussion between the Bank and steel companies. Sir Frederick's report is expected to concentrate on private-sector solutions to the problem of overcapacity rather than looking for Government funding of a reorganization.

Coal board may cut 400 jobs in Wales

The National Coal Board yesterday announced a cut of up to 400 jobs in South Wales over the next two years.

Mr Philip Weekes, NCB area director, explained the board's cost-saving programme to management and clerical trade unions. He said the board wanted to achieve the reduction with early retirements, voluntary redundancies and natural wastage.

Heavy financial losses have been made in the South Wales coalfield. Full details will be given next week in the NCB annual report, but the board already has indicated that the losses were in excess of £60m during the last financial year.

The reduction in jobs could be less than the "optimum figure" of 400.

Stock markets

Ft Index 517.0 up 4.8
FT Gilts 63.81 up 0.66

Sterling

\$1.8550 up 1.2 cents
Index 91.8 up 0.1
New York: \$1.8592

Dollar

Index 111.6 down 0.3
DM 2.4415 down 275 pts

Gold

\$411 up \$4
New York: 5408

Money

3 mth sterling 141-144
3 mth Euro \$ 181-182
6 mth Euro \$ 181-181

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Atlantic Res 30p to 220p
Burdensbury Est 13p to 725p
Rindley Higgs 13p to 230p
Ulrich Corp 13p to 725p
Amersham A* 10p to 640p
Point 12p to 198p
ismo 12p to 574p
IT 10p to 380p
Tel Trans 10p to 374p
Aardart Tel 10p to 457p
In Alliance 10p to 894p
Iorn EMI 10p to 448p

Falls

b-Latham 7p to 278p
Lington Motor 14p to 182p
h & Lacy 21p to 250p
WY 2p to 30p
Higgs 2p to 30p
Review Est 6p to 125p
Robinson 6p to 100p
Kag Koss 13p to 512p
Lead Russell 13p to 275p
mark L 5p to 350p
Est B 5p to 31p
veley Ltd 10p to 228p

Mobil may raise bid

Mobil Corporation appears ready to increase its \$7,740m (£4,150m) bid for Conoco. The increased bid may force rivals Du Pont and Seagrams to raise their own offers or abandon their campaigns.

Mobil said last night: "It is considering revising the structure and pricing of its cash portion of its offer so that it would be at least as high per share as the \$35 per share cash portion of the Du Pont offer."

Seagrams is offering \$85 per share in cash for 51 per cent of Conoco. Du Pont is offering \$95 per share in cash for 40 per cent and offering a share exchange for the remaining 60 per cent.

Pound steadier and gilts gain

The pound had a better day on foreign exchange markets yesterday, recovering 1.2 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.8550. But the pound's performance was really no more than a reflection of profit-taking in the dollar.

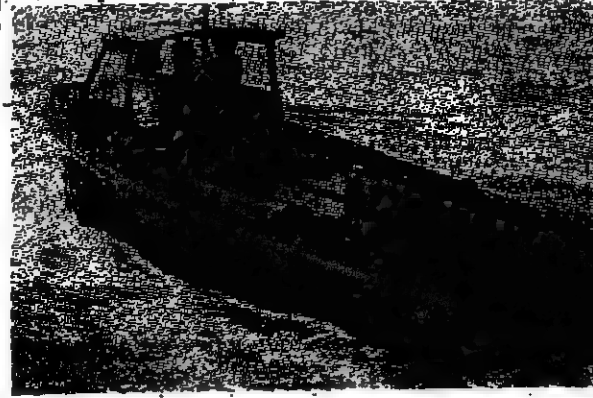
News of a fall in American gap and inflation in the second quarter raised fresh expectations that dollar interest rates may now be at their peak.

In London, money market interest rates closed little changed after a firmer opening. The Bank supplied funds to the discount market at 12-12 1/2 per cent. Medium and long gilts scored gains of £1 or more.

The London Gold Futures Market intends to go ahead with plans for a 100 ounces gold futures contract dominated in sterling. But it will not be traded on the London Metal Exchange. No opening date or venue has yet been agreed.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Ugly Fairey weaves a spell to attract £20m



A company of boat builders on the Hamble associated with sleek luxury cruisers yesterday celebrated the success of its ugliest craft in attracting orders worth £20m. Fairey Allday Marine has built 100 combat support boats (one pictured above) for the British and United States armies and Mr Ian Sutherland, the company's managing director, revealed that discussions are in progress with the Americans for a further 70.

Sizewell inquiry

Sir Frank Layfield, the QC who chaired the committee of inquiry into local government finance in 1974-76, has been appointed inspector for next year's public inquiry into the proposed Sizewell B nuclear power station in Suffolk.

The appointment was announced yesterday by Mr David Howell, the Energy Secretary.

A delegation from the TUC's textile, clothing and footwear industries committee will meet Government ministers tomorrow to discuss Government moves to combat recession in the textile industry.

Comeback for banker

Mr Tom Whyte, whose Triumph Investment Trust was one of the more spectacular casualties of the secondary banking crisis, continues to make his comeback in the City.

After his abortive attempt to organize a takeover of money brokers R P Martin, Mr Whyte has emerged as the power behind Bermuda-based Payer Agencies which declared a near-15 per cent interest in Sangers, the pharmaceutical wholesaler, on Tuesday.

Payer owns 7.5 per cent of the shares directly and another 7.2 per cent is controlled by associates. Mr Whyte is confident that Sangers can overcome the past two years of sharply falling profits but for the time being is describing the stake as purely an investment.

Sanger shares closed 6p higher at their year's high of 84p.

Chrysler profit

Chrysler, kept afloat in part by a £1.20m in government loan guarantees, has announced its first profit since 1978.

Mr Bill Stempfen, a company spokesman, said: "There is going to be a profit for the second quarter, but would not say how much. Mr Lee Iacocca, Chrysler president, was to provide details later."

Chrysler's last profit was \$43.1m in the fourth quarter of 1978. Since then it has lost nearly \$3,200m.

Exxon profits for the second quarter sharply rose to \$1,825m (£986.4m) but Conoco reported a 36.4 per cent fall in its operating income to \$158.7m (£84.8m).

Seven banks join loan plan

Seven new banks are to join the Government's small business loan guarantee scheme. They are Yorkshire Bank, The Co-operative Bank, which gave early support to the scheme in the first place, the four Northern Irish banks and Hill Samuel, a merchant bank that claims a high proportion of small company loans.

Hill Samuel said yesterday that it would make loans at 1 to 2 per cent over its base rate of 12 per cent and the Co-op Bank will lend at 1 1/2 per cent over base.

TODAY

British Airways Authority annual report.

New vehicle registrations. Engineering industry sales and orders.

Company results: Inchcape Investments (finals), MFI Furniture (finals).

GENERALI Assicurazioni Generali

Report of the Board of Directors 1980 Highlights

Income (000 US Dollars)	1,461,276
Premiums gross	1,499,652
ceded	268,494
Net investment income	214,396
Profit on sale of investments	15,722
Expenditures (000 US Dollars)	1,419,402
Claims, maturities and surrenders	611,318
Increase in technical reserves	353,062
Acquisition and management expenses	422,916
Taxes	3,736
Unrealised capital losses on securities	18,529
Other expenditures	9,841
Profit	41,874
Per Share (Dollars)	
Profit	1.68
Dividends	1.02

• Premiums written exceeded US \$ 1,499m (+21.8%).

• Technical reserves amounted to US \$ 2,762m (+US \$ 41.4m).

• Investments totalled US \$ 3,091m an increase of US \$ 490m (+18.8%).

• Net investment income increased to US \$ 214.4m (+29%). Profit on sale of investments of US \$ 15.7m consisted of US \$ 4.6m from the sale of real estate and US \$ 11.1m from trading in securities.

• Capital and free reserves show a surplus of US \$ 76m over the minimum solvency margin requirements.

• Profit for year was US \$ 41.9m from which US \$ 11.8m was allocated to an extraordinary reserve.

• Dividends per share amounted to US \$ 1.02 on capital of 107.5m resulting in a 26.7% increase.

IMI stays in the hunt for US takeovers

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

IMI, one of Britain's top 50 manufacturing groups, said yesterday that it would still go ahead with a programme of acquisitions in America despite sterling's fall to a three year low against the dollar.

Mr Eric Swainson, IMI's managing director, said: "There is no disguising the fact that sterling's fall is a blow, but we have to take the long-term view and plan for 10 to 20 years ahead."

"It will make acquisitions more expensive initially but this is offset by the prospect of improved sterling profits resulting from a strong dollar."

IMI has sought to lessen its dependence on the UK since December 1977 when ICI sold its controlling 62 per cent holding in its former subsidiary. Some 60 per cent of its output is manufactured in Britain, although 20 per cent of this is sold overseas.

For a company of its size — the 1980 turnover was £625m — it has a relatively small proportion of its manufacturing located outside Britain.

The Birmingham based company was expected to spread its wings long before this. There is no doubt that the board felt restricted by ICI dominance. So why wait three years to make a move and while in the middle of the worst recession for 30 years?

The answer is to be found in the relatively poor performance of IMI's shares. Since the company's takeover by ICI's total disinvestment.

But over the past year the share price has strengthened, enabling IMI to make a recent rights issue which raised £27.5m and gave it the increased capital and flexibility to go hunting in the US.

Mr Swainson said the recession had underlined the danger of companies becoming

too dependent on one industrial sector and one market. Fortunately, IMI was not heavily committed to the hard-hat steel and motor industries like other Midlands groups but had operated in six leading product areas — building supplies, heat exchange, fluid power, special purpose valves, general engineering, and refined and wrought metals.

This did not mean that it had spread itself too thinly to be internationally competitive in its chosen fields. It was the third biggest producer of titanium in the West and a leader in copper tubing and hotwater cylinders.

"But we have to work hard to get a better balance and unlike some engineering groups I suspect we are over-involved in the United Kingdom," Mr Swainson said. This stems from when we were an ICI company.

IMI already owns C. A. Norgren, the Denver, Colorado, company which is a market leader in the United States with ancillary equipment for compressed air machinery.

It recently reached agreement in principle to buy Control Components International, of Irvine, California.

Mr Swainson said the intention was to acquire United States companies which would complement its existing expertise. A number were already on offer, and he expected others to come knocking on the door when investment brokers heard that IMI had appointed a United States director with offices in New York specifically to identify business prospects.

£15m fibre optic orders boost phone network

By Bill Johnston

British Telecom has placed orders worth £15m in the second stage of its plan to include fibre optic cabling into its national network. The orders have gone to Electric Cable Company (ECC), Telephone Cables, Plessey, BICC and STC.

The second stage, which represents 800km of cabling, will be laid on 24 routes during 1982-1985. The first part of the programme began two years ago with orders for 450km of cable worth about £16m.

The optical fibre is a strand of glass as thin as a human hair capable of transmitting up to 2,000 telephone calls simultaneously. Instead of electrical signals being carried as in conventional cabling the information, either voice or data, is represented by a series of high — pulses of light. The light signals can travel much further in this type of cable before they need to be boosted.

Further orders for electronic equipment which directs and interprets the signals will be placed with other British manufacturers.

British Telecom, however, has stressed that the investment in fibre optic cabling is just one part of the corporation's overall programme to produce a high speed digital network throughout Britain. That investment will be about £2,000m a year for the next five years.

Mr George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, said: "We expect to buy and install at least 100,000 km of fibre optic cable by 1985 to create a network embracing all of Britain's major cities."

Optical fibres are expected to account for about half of the long distance trunk network capacity of British Telecom by 1990. According to the corporation the fibre would make

massive savings in the cost of running and enlarging the telecommunications network. As part of the national plan British Telecom has placed an order for the world's first fibre link using an advanced technique called monomode technology. With monomode transmission the light signals can travel 10 to 15 times further than in

conventional cabling. British Telecom's own researchers at Martlesham, Suffolk, are experimenting with the monomode fibre. The first monomode link of about 27 km will be laid between Luton and Milton Keynes and will be completed by 1984. British Telecom has developed a method of Martlesham for the production of certain

types of optical fibres and the corporation is confident in the export potential of the technology. The corporation is also adamant that the technological benefits which may now accrue to any private telecommunications network operator in Britain intending to use fibre optic cabling has been due to its own research investment made in the technology and in British industry.

Through the eye of a needle: A single strand of fibre optic cable being drawn from a glass rod. Fibre optics — glass strands as thin as a human hair — capable of taking up to 2,000 telephone calls simultaneously will, over the next decade, carry about half of British Telecom's long-distance trunk traffic. The corporation will lay at least 100,000 km of the optical fibre in the national network during the 1980s, linking all Britain's major cities.



Indicators point to American recession

From Frank Vogl, Washington, July 22

Figures released today by the Department of Commerce point to the onset of an American recession as well as a significant decline in inflation. The main cause of these trends is unquestionably the record level of interest rates.

Economic activity fell sharply in the second quarter of the year and most economists expect further declines in the current quarter. A recession is generally defined in the United States as two quarters of negative growth.

The Commerce Department reported that the gross national product fell at an annual rate of 1.9 per cent in the last quarter, after rising by 8.6 per cent in the first quarter. Inflation slowed to an annual rate of 6 per cent in the last three months, from 9.8 per cent in the first quarter.

Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the Secretary of Commerce, said he expects that the current quarter will be flat — a view shared by the Federal Reserve Board and the Council of Economic Advisors. "Business is going to be in for a tough time for the rest of the year," he said.

White House officials were not surprised by the new figures. Mr Larry Speakes, spokesman for President Reagan, said that several months of economic weakness were expected before a strengthening of the economy in the final months of the year.

He described the figures as "another clear-cut demonstration of the need for congressional action of the President's economic programme which will stimulate growth, investment and savings by individuals."

In testimony before a congressional committee today Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said money supply growth would continue to be tightly restrained.

In the money markets the rate for federal funds rose to 21 per cent. If this holds for a few days, prime rate rises are certain.

The ways and means committee of the House of Representatives today completed work on a tax bill, but in many respects it differs from the one the Senate will approve.

The decline in G.N.P. in the second quarter was largely due to a fall in real final sales of 4.8 per cent, after a first quarter gain of 6.9 per cent. Lower exports and lower business investment spending were important factors, but a sharp decline in new car sales was the main cause of the sales drop.

Steam coal cargo boom predicted

A booming world sea-going trade in steam coal is being forecast by London shipping brokers, but it is unlikely to take off before 1985.

Brokers Galbraith Wrightson say that many experts have been predicting such a boom for some time as a cheaper alternative to high-priced oil. The main obstacle is the lack of sufficient investment in expanded port and handling facilities, the brokers say. At the same time growth in the coking coal trades is still being hindered by a slow recovery in the iron and steel industries.

A great deal of interest is being shown in shipping circles in building new vessels powered by coal-fired engines, the brokers report. But they add that these new ships have to be large to be viable, at least 50,000-60,000 dwt.

IN BRIEF

Oil exports tumble

□ Kuwait's crude oil exports have dropped to their lowest level in a decade, the daily Al-Wakeel newspaper reported. Kuwait cut back production from 1.5m to 1.25m barrels a day on April 1 to slow the depletion of its reserves and to hedge against the glut in the world oil markets.

Engines for Italy

□ Daihatsu of Japan said it had signed a contract with Nuova Innocenti of Milan to supply car engines and transmissions. The Japanese-built 1,000cc three-cylinder engines will be mounted on small cars made by Innocenti, Daihatsu said. They did not disclose the cost. About 7,000 sets will be delivered this year, rising to 30,000 next year and 40,000 in 1983.

£659m for Scotland

□ Tourism in Scotland last year earned £659m, £59m more than the previous year. This was despite fewer overseas visitors, a downturn in the hotel trade, shorter holidays, bad weather and the recession, Mr Alan Davidson, chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board said.

Car parts for France

□ Toyota Motor affiliate, Aisin, said it has entered an agreement for long-term supply of car parts to the French car manufacturers, Renault and Peugeot-Citroen. It declined to specify contract values or the duration of the agreement, but it said it will supply Peugeot-Citroen with about 200,000 window regulators a year and Renault with 100,000.

£8m plant orders

□ Torex, the earth moving plant manufacturer, has won export orders worth more than £8m in the past month for machines to be used in construction projects in Spain, Indonesia, Iraq and Nigeria. The company employs 1,500 at its plant at Newhouse, Lanarkshire.

Seiko watches deal

□ Daini Seikosha, manufacturer of Seiko watches, has signed an agreement with China's Shanghai municipal watch manufacturing factory to assemble movements for automatic wristwatches.

Mexican oil talks

□ Talks between Japanese and Mexican officials on oil shipments continued yesterday, but without any signs of progress, Japanese government sources said. Officials of Mexico's national oil company, Pemex, are in Tokyo for a week-long visit in an attempt to persuade Japanese to increase purchases of Mexican crude oil beyond their present 100,000 barrels a day, possibly to as much as 300,000 barrels.

Gas exports down

□ Dutch gas exports fell 3.4 per cent to 25,200 cubic metres in first half 1981 from 26,100m in the same 1980 period. Domestic sales dropped 8.8 per cent and total sales by 5 per cent. A resumption of Algerian gas deliveries enabled France to cut its use of Dutch gas.

Australian oil

□ Australian oil exploration should continue to find new reserves at an average 200 million barrels a year until 2000, Esso Australia said. New finds could balance reservoir depletion at present output rates, provided producers have incentives to make the necessary big investments, the company said. Australia has reserves of 1,870 million barrels, of which about 92 per cent is in the Bass Strait.

W German policy

□ The West German Central Bank's monetary policy, and not government borrowing, has been the decisive factor behind the rise in German capital market interest rates, Herr Hans Matthöfer, the West German finance minister, said. The bank has been forced to raise interest rates to prevent a strong outflow of private capital attracted by high American interest rates.

Iraqi train contract

□ Thyssen Henschel, a subsidiary of Thyssen AG, has received a DM250m (£54m) contract from Iraq to build 62 locomotives. Deliveries will begin towards the end of 1982.

Noise level code 'would cost industry £1,000m'

By Edward Townsend

The Confederation of British Industry is warning yesterday that if companies were forced by legislation to adopt maximum proposed standards on factory noise levels, industry could be faced with a bill totalling £1,000m.

Profits, investment and employment would be hit, said the CBI, and large sectors of industry could be faced with closure.

The CBI's comments precede the publication, expected soon, of a Health and Safety Commission consultative document on the protection of workers, which will contain pro-

posals for regulations and an approved code of practice.

Mr Dick Eberle, head of the CBI's health and safety department, said: "Since impaired hearing is a real social handicap, which reduces the quality of life, some action should be taken. Yet large sectors of industry would close down if maximum standards based in engineering methods were chosen."

Estimates made by the confederation are that the extra cost of meeting extreme standards in the Scotch whisky industry, for example, would be a £2m capital investment and £1m a year running costs.

Further decline is facing builders

By Nicholas Cole

Output in the construction industry by 1982 will probably have declined to its lowest level for more than 20 years, according to the National Council of Building Material Producers.

In its latest report, the council's forecasting panel predicts that output will fall by an overall 11.5 per cent this year, with a further fall of 0.5 per cent next year. This would be the lowest level since 1961.

"The main falls are in public new housing, private industrial building and public non-housing work," the panel says.

Even housing repair, maintenance and improvement, which has been assuming an increasingly important role in total output, is due to plunge "very sharply indeed." The fall will be 13 per cent during the present year, the first drop since 1976-77. Repair, maintenance and improvement works are acutely sensitive to real income levels, and these are not holding up at present.

The fall in do-it-yourself

activity is expected to be even greater this year, but movements in this sector are not quantified by the panel.

The construction industry is not expected to recover until 1983, with a rise in output of 5 per cent. The recovery will be most noticeable in private housebuilding, housing repairs and improvement, and industrial building.

Housing starts in the public sector are unlikely to exceed 30,000 annually before the end of 1983, while the "much-vaunted revival" in private housebuilding starts has turned out to be "a false dawn."

Consequently, the panel has reduced its April forecast by 10,000 and now expects the volume of starts to be 110,000 this year. This will rise gradually to 125,000 in 1982, in anticipation of recovery in 1983, when 135,000 homes are expected to be started by private builders.

Figures also show there has been a heavy decline in new work in the public sector.

New deal for scrap sought

By Baron Phillips

The establishment of a marketing board to represent the home and overseas markets for Britain's ferrous scrap industry is being actively canvassed by the British Scrap Federation.

The move underlines the federation's belief that the industry must be restructured and reorganised if it is to survive.

Scrap is the last sector of the iron and steel industry to consider its position in the market and the federation feels that a marketing board may hold the key to survival.

The establishment of such a board would do much to reduce the wasteful competition for supplies which exists within the industry. It could also have a

degree of success in attracting private sector finance such as the Lazard scheme for reorganising the steel casting sector.

These thoughts emerged when Mr Colin Nutter, president of the British Scrap Federation, announced the industry's half year consumption figures. The industry's decline last year appears to have halted with sales increasing from 3,541 million tonnes in the last six months of 1980 to just under 4 million tonnes by the end of June.

Mr Nutter pointed out that more than 30 of the federation's members have either ceased trading or closed depots, which is equivalent to about 6 per cent of total membership.

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C.P. Drinkwater, Chairman

A total dividend of 0.3125p per share recommended which is the same as last year after adjusting for capitalisation.

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Business appointments

RTZ names a new director

Mr George R. Albino has been appointed a director of The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation.

Mr J. R. Parry has been made secretary of The British Electric Traction Company with effect from July 23 following the retirement of Mr N. L. H. Smith.

Dr Brian Bailey has been named as director general of the United Association for the Protection of Trade. He succeeds Mr C. McNeil Greig, who retires at the end of July.

Mr J. N. Davenport and Mr J. McInyre have become members of the board of directors of M.I.M. Holdings.

Mr John Kerslake has been appointed finance director of L&C Industrial Holdings.

Mr Chris Bradshaw has been made business development director of UB (Biscuits). Mr John Capstick becomes catering managing director.

Mr F. K. Thomson has been appointed a director of Willis Faber and Mr K. M. Grafton-Grattan executive director of the international division of Willis Faber & Dumas.

Mr Rowland Cobbold has been named as new general manager-Europe for Cathay Pacific Airways. He will be based in London, and succeeds Mr John Olsen, who is transferring to Tokyo as Cathay Pacific's general manager-Japan.

William Press in 1980

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We continue to search with a conservative approach for other businesses which will fit in with our corporate strategy.

A copy of the full statement by the Chairman, with the annual report and accounts, is available from the Secretary, William Press Group PLC, 28 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AU.

Results in brief	1980	1979
Turnover	£200	£200
Pre-tax profit	252,000	227,000
Taxation	8,227	6,625
Minority interests	(2,458)	(1,988)
Special taxation credit	(324)	(84)
Extraordinary item	4,919	—
Profit attributable to the members	(2,200)	(2,000)
Ordinary dividend per share	8,164	2,543
Earnings per ordinary share	1.35p	1.3p
	4.54p	3.78p

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مركز الأعمال

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rates after Ottawa

Anyone who expected the Ottawa summit to produce an American promise to cut interest rates had not been listening to President Reagan with that in mind. The conclusions of the meeting hardly came as a surprise. But the firmness of the American stance seems to have convinced European leaders that for the time being there is no point continuing to complain. They had better start doing something to bring down interest rates in Europe which does not rely on American cooperation.

The German government will tighten its fiscal policy to ease the position of the Federal Bank. Similar actions, rather like those which the Chancellor took in our Budget in the spring, are likely from other countries as well.

This will certainly keep domestic demand in Europe depressed over the next year and so cut the domestic demand for money. In that sense, the policies which are under way ought to ease some of the interest rate pressure. But as our own experience shows, such action is no guarantee that a country can combat a severely deflationary yet interest rates have remained obstinately high and the pound has fallen against the dollar. Experience over the past year has made most European countries, especially Germany, much more conscious of their exchange rates. Indeed, parties rather than money supply growth are increasingly becoming the focus of policy. That has even happened in the UK, though against a background where both sets of indicators have been pointing to the need for toughness.

This suggests that the Europeans cannot hope to get their interest rates down just by budgetary restraint. That would still leave open movements out of their currencies in search of high interest rates in New York.

The European countries have two possible responses to this situation. One is to cut interest rates anyway and hope to use intervention in the foreign exchange markets to hold up the value of their currencies. Germany is at least as critical of the U.S. refusal to intervene in foreign exchange markets as it is of interest rate policy at the FED. The problem is that all past experience suggests that the funds available to the authorities are now too small to match the funds in the private market.

But a greater central bank presence in the foreign exchange markets seems likely over the next six months. The second option is simply to hope that interest rates come down at the turn of the year as the U.S. moves into recession. The problem with that is that we have seen just how long it can take for a policy using high interest rates to create monetary restraint to pay off in terms of lower inflation and lower interest rates.

There is no doubt that the U.S. treasury secretary, Mr Donald Regan, would like to get interest rates down. They are a domestic embarrassment as well as a source of international criticism. But the end of the year timetable looks optimistic for any really big fall in interest rates of the sort which would transform the situation for Europeans. As if to hammer home this point, Mr Paul Volcker, of the federal reserve, announced a tightening of the money supply targets on Tuesday. The administration makes the point that in time lower interest rates will come because lower inflation will come. But there is considerable scepticism about some of the more miraculous supply side effects on which they seem to be relying. Money looks likely to be dear for some time yet.

British Sugar

Cutting the Gordian knot

More than two years and a prolonged takeover struggle after it first said it wanted to sell the 24 per cent stake in British Sugar, the Government has done the deed. By placing the stake in small parcels with some 150 institutions the Government has greatly clarified the picture, and made the next round in the battle between British Sugar and S & W Berisford that much more straightforward. At the same time, however, the Government has removed a potentially important source of influence from what successive administrations have maintained is a strategic industry.

The immediate effect, of course, should be on the share price. The Government sold its shares at 305p, where it realized £4.4m less than at Berisford's final offer of 335p. By Tuesday the price had slipped to 318p. The theory was that prospects of a Government sale depressed the price, and so as soon as the placing was over, jobbers marked the stock up to 323p, closing at 326p. The question now is how the market sees Berisford's 40 per cent holding. Will it too overhang the market? And what about the shares bought for its own account by British Sugar's advisers, Schroder Wagg?

On their fundamentals of a yield of around 4.4 per cent and a p/e of 9.5, British Sugar shares should have some steam left. But there is probably some suspicion in the market about the quality of British Sugar's earnings — just as there always has been about Berisford's — and there is a feeling that a significant rise in the British Sugar price could tempt Berisford's trading instinct to sell part of its stake.

For the moment, however, Berisford seems content to keep its holdings, on which it has a paper profit anyway, and clip the dividend coupons which more than cover financing charges. In the longer term, the market will have to adjust to the idea of an industry without a possible crucial element of Government control. That influence, more in tune with the times, has been transferred to Government negotiations in Brussels. Another phase in the modernization and reconstruction of the British sugar industry is over.

Pressure of circumstances seems to be forcing changes in the way the City has to operate in a fashion that would have seemed unthinkable in the days of a Conservative administration not so long ago. The Government plainly sees its role as no more than that of an honest broker between the City and industry, and, save in exceptional circumstances, private sector solutions to industrial crisis are de rigueur so far as the Cabinet is concerned.

The clearing banks have already had to learn that a much more understanding relationship with their customers is now politically desirable. And the next to feel the wind of change could be the investing institutions themselves. Having successfully resisted trade union pressure for direction of at least part of their annual cash flow during the rumormongering of the Wilson Committee, it seems they are now being allotted a special role in the reorganization of the special steel sector by the country's government. The steel industry, which has been the focus of the private steel sector, unlike the steel castings sector, where Lazard's announced this week an ambitious plan to cut out excess capacity, there are at least hopes that special steels will be quite profitable in the years ahead and the job of the institutions may be restricted to giving a helping hand to mergers rather than pumping in huge sums of money.

British Land Assets not income

An increase of more than £2m in gross rents provided the main thrust behind British Land's increase in its pre-tax surplus from £3.9m to £4.8m. Last year's two acquisitions of Corn Exchange and United Kingdom Property have not contributed a great deal after initial start-up costs but there will be more to come this year as well as the benefits from completions and new lettings. So profits should be comfortably ahead again despite the poor general outlook for rental growth.

However, British Land's policy of retaining earnings — the dividend is unchanged at a nominal 0.36p gross — means the spotlight falls firmly on asset growth. On this score fully-diluted assets per share have risen from 134p to 145p, which is broadly in line with expectations and may be on the conservative side. But with the shares down 3p to 94p yesterday, the discount to assets is still more than one-third. This compares with a rough average for the sector of about 25 per cent with the exception naturally of Land Securities where the discount is more like 20 per cent.

There is no doubting the quality of British Land's portfolio, and with about two-fifths tied up in City freeholds, the long-term growth potential should be good. It would also stand to benefit should the Greater London Council carry out its plans to ban office development in London.

Pressure is building up for the Government to tighten the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act, under which the Department of Trade Licences share dealers who are not members of the Stock Exchange authorities. The United Kingdom's £4,000m unit trust industry.

Four years ago the department asked how the rules should be altered, but a change of Government and two Companies Bills pushed any changes to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Trade Mr Reginald Eyre said on Monday that the changes sought would be a primary legislation for which he saw no scope in the present Parliament.

Interest in the Act surged earlier this year when Norman Warburton, the financial investment advice group, collapsed owing £5m. Its share dealer's licence had been renewed less than four months earlier.

Last Friday Arbuthnot Latham suspended Sir Trevor Dawson and Mr Michael Barnett, who together managed the merchant bank's £51m unit trust offshoot, Arbuthnot Securities. Arbuthnot Latham said the suspensions were in connection with the Hallday, Simpson, or why the two Arbuthnot directors were suspended.

No official public statements have yet been made which would define the precise nature of inquiries into share dealings of Hallday, Simpson, or why the two Arbuthnot directors were suspended. But the shock has been sufficient to send a number of the City's financial associations to make informal inquiries for the Exchange to see if any other trusts or other stockbrokers are likely to be named.

The Association of Investment Trusts has already met to discuss the issue and has decided not to comment until more details emerge. The Unit Trust Association, itself an investment trust, has also met.

Neither can the Exchange categorically state that no one else is involved in its inquiries.

For the unit trust industry even the hint of any irregularity in the past few years has caused disclosures come at a time when

Unit trusts: should the rules be tightened?

The relationship between a fund manager's personal dealings and those transactions carried out on behalf of the fund he manages have been the subject of three Codes of Practice within the last eighteen months

which would have been contrary to the spirit of the Stock Exchange's suspension.

Hallday, Simpson is in the process of closing as a stockbroker's firm. It says that it has ample funds to meet commitments.

A request for Arbuthnot to conduct an internal inquiry was made verbally by Mr Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, to the merchant bank's chairman, Mr Andrew Arbuthnot, on the day Hallday was suspended.

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For the unit trust industry even the hint of any irregularity in the past few years has caused disclosures come at a time when

the industry has returned as a fashionable vehicle for small investors after a decade in the doldrums. In the past six months unit trusts have taken record sums of money from the public and dozens of funds have been launched.

There is no question that any of the public's money is at risk. The Royal Bank of Scotland, Godson, the Stock Exchange chairman, to the merchant bank's chairman, Mr Andrew Arbuthnot, on the day Hallday was suspended.

But the shock has been sufficient to send a number of the City's financial associations to make informal inquiries for the Exchange to see if any other trusts or other stockbrokers are likely to be named.

The Association of Investment Trusts has already met to discuss the issue and has decided not to comment until more details emerge. The Unit Trust Association, itself an investment trust, has also met.

Neither can the Exchange categorically state that no one else is involved in its inquiries.

For the unit trust industry even the hint of any irregularity in the past few years has caused disclosures come at a time when

The Hallday investigation covers share dealing activities specifically over the last two or three years, but it has been suggested that investigations could involve going back ten years, with possible connections with the Burge/Piccadilly affair.

The Hallday investigation has been going on since March and was instituted after the Chief Unit Trust group had conducted an internal inquiry into the share dealings which resulted in the dismissal of one of its investment fund managers.

Its internal investigation was started after the City of London Police fraud squad came to Chief Unit Trust group had conducted an internal inquiry into the share dealings which resulted in the dismissal of one of its investment fund managers.

The relationship between a fund manager's personal dealings and those transactions carried out on behalf of the fund he manages have been the subject of three codes of practice within the last 18 months.

The first, in May, 1980, came from the Council for the Securities Industry, the City's ultimate self-regulatory watchdog, and covers all those who deal in securities.

Among its best practice suggestions is that a dealer should endeavour to avoid any conflicts of interest between himself and his clients or other persons with whom he has fiduciary relationships; and that deals should avoid any practice which might lead to a

false market and should not participate in any operation by others which might have the same results.

The second code came out in March this year, also from the Council for the Securities Industry, and called for Personal Dealings by Fund Managers.

In its opening paragraphs it said: "There is no reason to believe that the subject is at present in special need of attention, but it is, on that account, a good time to secure a more general adoption of the best current practice."

The guidelines themselves were already in existence through the powerful City elite of merchant banks, of which Arbuthnot is a member, the Accepting Houses Committee.

The third is due from the Stock Exchange. That will relate to discretionary accounts, where a stockbroker is asked by a client to handle his portfolio without seeking permission on every individual deal that the broker feels would be advantageous for the client.

The Stock Exchange Council says that it considers that discretionary accounts should not be operated unless the extent of the discretion and the general aims and restrictions are set out in writing.

It added that the new rule was introduced to avoid disputes and subsequent complaints to the Exchange from investors. The Exchange was quick to point out that it had been around for almost 18 months and did not arise from an increasing number of complaints.

The main body of City opinion must now centre on how the various associations and authorities can prevent possible abuses of a system which all the participants desire to be kept on a self-regulatory level.

No matter how tight the Prevention of Fraud Act becomes, it cannot guarantee that abuses will not take place.

Philip Robinson

Economic notebook

Little comfort for the Third World

The Gulf between the words and actions of the West's leaders can rarely have appeared wider than in the wake of the Ottawa summit.

It must, for example, have been a bitter sense of irony that the drafters of the Ottawa communiqué wrote the words: "We will continue to resist...protectionist measures...". In the same week that the participating summit countries were engaged in negotiating a new trade pact aimed specifically at restricting imports from the developing nations, indeed, three summit countries — Britain, France and Italy — have made it abundantly clear that the new pact will be more restrictive than the one it replaces.

Then again, the seven leaders are, according to the communiqué, "committed to maintaining substantial aid, in many cases, growing levels of official development assistance and will seek to increase public understanding of its importance". Well, it does, of course, all depend on what is meant by "substantial". But the British aid budget is now declining faster than almost any other public spending programme, and much faster than the public expenditure is planned to fall overall.

In the United States, too, the Administration's policy changes and the prejudices of Congress and certain in the public in the real value of the country's aid contribution. Already, this has led to a suspension in aid from the International Development Administration, the aid of the World Bank which provides

money on easy terms to the poorest nations.

As a proportion of its gross national product, the American aid budget has been dropping steadily for almost 20 years. In 1980, it provided just 0.27 of its gross national product in the form of foreign aid, less than half the 0.60 per cent that it was prepared to make available to poorer nations in 1963. The story is similar in Britain's case. It gave less in 1980, as a proportion of its gnp, than at any time for at least two decades (0.34 per cent last year compared with 0.59 per cent in 1961).

Neither has Mrs Thatcher's notorious reference to aid as a "charity" done much to "increase public understanding of its importance".

The Ottawa communiqué also says that the summit nations will direct a major portion of our aid to the poorer countries. This is hard to reconcile with the geographical distribution of United States bilateral aid, nearly half of which goes to Israel and Egypt. Israel has a national income higher than Ireland and not much below Italy. Almost half of France's aid goes to some 30 million people in the overseas departments and territories.

In the case of Britain, the present Government has introduced the so-called "commercial criteria" for allocating a part of the aid budget. In spite of the casuistry of the Foreign Office in attempting to show that this is no way conflicts with a duty to help the poor countries, the fact remains that

In the wake of the Ottawa summit, Melvyn Westlake assesses the West's attitude to the developing nations

this criteria would be unnecessary if all aid was allocated according to need.

Moreover, the commercial and industrial criteria are implicitly protectionist, a point that Mr Neil Martin, the aid minister is entirely unable to grasp. It would not be necessary to take account of such criteria if British companies were able to win contracts and orders in free competition, without the assistance of helpfully directed aid.

Even before this new criteria was introduced, a high proportion of Britain's bilateral aid was "tied" to the purchase of goods in this country. This means that the developing nation that receives the aid may have to spend it on goods that are inferior or more expensive than might be obtained if the money could be spent anywhere in the world.

In their summit communiqué the seven leaders of the

industrialized world also say that they intend to "maintain a strong commitment to the international financial institutions (World Bank, IMF, and regional development banks) and work to ensure that they have, and use effectively, the financial resources for their important responsibilities".

For the Americans, at least, this would seem to represent a singular change in attitude to the World Bank and the regional development banks. It has been made clear on several occasions and by a number of officials that the Administration would like to see less of its aid channelled through these institutions and more of it given on a direct government-to-government basis. In this way, the United States would be able to maintain better control over the distribution of its aid.

At another point in the communiqué, the summit leaders say: "We recognize the importance of accelerated food production in the developing world and greater world food security, and the need for developing countries to pursue sound agricultural and food policies."

What it did not mention is that agriculture remains the most highly protected sector in many of the industrialized nations and that the last attempt to get an agreement on the creation of world food stocks collapsed because the United States and the European Community could not reconcile their conflicting interests.

The EEC common agricultural policy acts as a positive discouragement to some forms of production in the Third World. It prevents developing countries competing in Community markets and undercuts them on world markets by dumping its surpluses at subsidized prices. Sugar is a particularly good example. The subsidies given to European beet farmers have provided them with an artificially large share of the market and made cane refining unprofitable.

Again, the communiqué says: "We remain ready to support the developing countries in the efforts they make to promote their economic and social development within the framework of their own social values and traditions."

Yet, it is quite apparent that the developing nations are having to bear the brunt of the industrialized world's efforts to defeat inflation. If rising unemployment and high interest rates are hurting the West, the pain caused to the Third World is much greater. High interest rates are substantially increasing borrowing costs on the developing countries' huge debts.

This year, interest payments are likely to account for nearly 500,000 of the combined current account deficit of the oil-importing Third World nations, which is now expected to reach \$100,000. The deficit caused by these interest payments is now bigger than the oil deficit.

Business Diary: Uttlesford's Stansted Eyre-obatics

Michael Heseltine the Secretary of State for the Environment, is away in Liverpool at present spending two weeks as Minister for Merseyside.

However, I hear that in the next few days he may also be gladdening some hearts in the Home Counties, chiefly in Essex and Hertfordshire.

Heseltine, I hear, is about to "call in" evidence to the effect that there should be no third London airport at Stansted and that a fifth terminal should be built at Heathrow instead.

Graham Eyre, QC, is to chair a public inquiry in two weeks' time into an application by the British Airports Authority to divert Heathrow overspill to the under-used airport at Stansted, Essex.

There is a counter-application by a somewhat smaller body, Uttlesford District Council, in whose domain Stansted lies to develop a new terminal at Heathrow. This is the application that Heseltine seems to be on the point of directing Eyre to consider in tandem with the BAA proposal.

In other words, the inquiry is a public inquiry in two weeks' time into an application by the British Airports Authority to divert Heathrow overspill to the under-used airport at Stansted, Essex.

Wallchart

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER TELLS ME THAT THESE DAYS...

THE COST OF ADVERTISING A SITUATION VACANT IS LESS THAN...

THE COST IN POSTAGE OF REPLYING TO ALL THE APPLICANTS...

More than 200,000 situation vacancies are advertised in the United Kingdom each year. The cost of advertising a situation vacant is less than the cost of replying to all the applicants.

Heathrow runways and is perhaps the only sewage farm in the world with its own international airport.

And, if I have not lost you in all this local government horse-trading by now, then try this one for size. Uttlesford Council upon Surrey County Council County Hall at Kingston upon Thames who would not mind closing down Heathrow altogether — let alone expanding it.

Surrey, by and large, does not have an unemployment problem and so could stand an airport closure, but it is short of housing and could use any land released thereby.

But I think I will leave Surrey with their opposite numbers in Hertfordshire and Essex.

Shop talk

Speculation within the airline industry has it that the Government is eyeing British Airways' collection of more than 40 high street travel agents with a view to sell them off to private enterprise, in an operation like that has just been carried out in the gas industry.

Freebooters within the Thatcher administration appear to

be of the opinion that the BA drive in the high street has now become so big that it constitutes partial nationalization through the backdoor of a large part of the travel industry.

Selling off the shops — and there would no doubt be plenty of takers among the private sector "travel companies" — would also satisfy the Government by at least partly helping it to achieve its stated aim of denationalizing the entire airline.

With British Airways making vast losses, there is obviously no scope for a complete sale, but an auction of the more substantial pieces, such as subsidiaries dealing in helicopter, package holiday flights, aviation electronics — and the shops — is very much in the cards.

Ramp outsider

The BBC has once again gone outside. Broadcasting House, and indeed into the private sector, to find a new director of personnel.

He is Christopher Martin, the 43-year-old group personnel controller of the Rank Organisation. He succeeds Michael

Bett, who after four years in the job was moved on to the public sector — to British Telecom.

Bett had previously been director of personnel at Lord Weinstock's GEC. The BBC used recruitment consultants Tyrk & Partners to find both Bett and Martin.

Martin's new job, which carries with it membership of the BBC board of management, involves a substantial salary increase — well over the £20,000 mark.

The precise figure is being kept under wraps — and not surprisingly, because Martin will be one of the few employees of the cash-strapped BBC, happy about his salary.


It will not escape the BBC unions' eyes that the new man will be earning much more for handling the BBC's 27,000 employees than he was for Rank's 36,000.

On the other hand, Martin did not have a seat on the Rank board. He reported to director Leslie Bond.

Martin had at least one thing in common with many of the BBC's staff — the desire to be somewhere else.

My note about the registration of the trademark Love's Labour's Lost for an oral contraceptive prompted reader Roy Williams of Wimbledon to suggest an alternative A's Well That Ends Well. It would have to be a big pill to get all that on, so I rather incline towards another, anonymous, suggestion that we switch from Shakespeare to Pinter and settle for The Caretaker.

Ross Davies



The Pinkerton organisation is pleased to announce the opening of an office offering Private Security and Investigation Services at:

Ferrari House, 102 College Road, Harrow
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Telephone: (01) 427 1077

Anthony C. Purbrick, Managing Director
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Pinkerton's of the United Kingdom Limited

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Bargain hunters keep rally going

Equities maintained their overnight rally yesterday as the pound came in for renewed support after hitting a three-year low.

The appearance of several bargain hunters in the thin conditions was enough to halt the recent dramatic fall, and special situations again lent a hand. Prominent among these was British Sugar where the Government successfully placed its 24 per cent stake at 305p. The placing was completed by three brokers, Cazenove, Rowe & Pitman and Greenwell, with recent bidder S. & W. Berisford picking up a further 1.2m shares, extending its stake to 40.02 per cent. Shares of S. & W. Berisford closed 2p higher at 123p while British Sugar put on 8p at 326p.

Electricals came in for further demand and oils enjoyed a day of speculative rumour with substantial improvements among many of the leaders.

The FT Index, after opening 0.4 up, closed 4.8 higher at 5170.

Government securities enjoyed renewed support with the 16 per cent yields among long now looking distinctly attractive.

By the close, gains in longer extended by as much as 2 1/2p in shorts the lead was between 1 1/2 and 1 3/4p.

Leading industrials continued to draw support, although the gains were limited to between 2p and 3p.

The big feature was Glaxo, up 8p to 372p on the United States prospects for its drug Ventolin. ICI advanced 2p to 264p, Beechams 1p to 205p, Unilever 3p to 530p, BOC International 3p to 133p, Dunlop 2p to 74p and Tube Investments 4p to 132p.

In electricals, Thorn EMI continued to attract institutional interest after the group's latest progress report to the City about its idea of extending its range of products from 3p to 133p, Dunlop 2p to 74p and Tube Investments 4p to 132p.

Shares of Oxfam were suspended at 120p after the start of takeover talks with an unknown admirer. Details are expected later today. GM Firth remained excited by Mr Ian

better at 725p, with Standard Telephones & Cables 10p stronger at 457p, Rascal up 3p at 410p and Telephone Rentals 7p ahead at 385p.

Among companies reporting, Arlington Motor dropped 14p to 102p after disappointing final figures, and McLeod Russel was 13p cheaper at 275p.

Dowty dropped 19p to 256p after comment on Tuesday's figures. RIT gained another

10p to 380p after recent profits news. Staveley retreated 10p to 228p after the profits warning from the chairman, but Hanson Trust levelled out at 226p after its recent announcement of a £43m rights issue.

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Wasserman's recent 15 per cent acquisition, climbing another 4p to 119p, and Sangers celebrated Pageant Agency's 14.76 per cent acquisition with a further 5p rise to 84p. Letraset went 3p better at 115p after suggestions of a forthcoming United States bid. Law Land advanced 8p to 128p following the revised bid terms from Churchbury, up 15p at 735p and with 28 per cent acceptance. Abraham

Miller rose 1p to 21p after rejecting Fieldwood's offer for the balance of the shares and Morgan Crucible was 4p stronger at 136p after news of its US business acquisition.

Whitbread's annual meeting was responsible for another 6p on the shares at 168p, but Arbutnot Latham dipped 7p to 278p still reflecting the resignation of two of its directors and the inquiry into

brokers Haldie Simpson. Speculative buying again supported International Paint, 13p dearer at 185p, still expecting a minority bid from Courtauld, which holds 88 per cent of the shares.

Bid fever in the United States infected London with some speculative buying. BP advanced 8p to 302p along with Shell, 10p at 374p, and Burmah, 2p to 118p. The focal point, however, remained Ultramar, up 15p at 489p and the most likely candidate for a United States bid, while Lamo trotted

graph, were Dowty, GM Firth and British Sugar.

Traded options: Dealers renewed interest with 3,483 contracts recorded, 167 of which were puts. Imperial Group was again in demand with 503 contracts run a close second by Courtauld at 415.

Traditional options: Declaration day saw calls in Keith Collins Pet on 3p, Young Country on 1p and on 3p and Weir Group on 3p.

Equity turnover on July 21 was £115,662m (12,471 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Tele-

close behind with a 12p rise to 574p.

Among second liners, Hamilton Oil, a newcomer to the market, closed 5p dearer at 137p still showing a discount of 3p over the initial offer price. KCA International was also sought after closing 3p better at 153p.

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Latest results

Company	Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Albion (I)	(—)	14.7(14.7)	0.57(0.15)	(—)	nil(0.6)	(—)	(—)
Allied Textile (I)	(—)	14.7(14.7)	0.57(0.15)	(—)	2.5(2.8)	(—)	(—)
British Land (F)	(—)	4.78(5.1)	4.78(5.1)	6.8(8.1)	0.25(0.25)	15/10	0.25(0.25)
Control Securities (F)	2.6(1.3)	0.65(0.5)	4.6(4.03)	1.75(—)	(—)	(—)	2.8(2.1)
Crest Int (I)	(—)	0.27(—)	0.39(—)	(—)	nil(—)	(—)	(—)
Dunlop (F)	(—)	0.57(0.5)	4.0(4.3)	2.4(—)	2.4(—)	28/8	(—)
Hammam Int (F)	15.7(16.01)	0.54(0.7)	1.61(2.3)	0.4(—)	0.4(—)	(—)	0.75(0.72)
Moorfield Int (I)	(—)	0.58(0.63)	1.7(1.8)	1.0(1.0)	4/9	1.0(1.0)	(—)
Rights Issues (I)	(—)	0.07(0.1)	(—)	(—)	1(1)	10/8	(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = net revenue before tax. † = loss.

Payout cut as Arlington slumps

By Rosemary Unsworth

Arlington Motor Holdings, the vehicle distribution group, saw its profits plunge last year as capital investment cuts bite into its commercial vehicle and bus and coach markets.

Pretax profits slipped from £15.2m to £14.8m in the 12 months to March 31, while turnover fell by £9m to £55.6m. As a result, the shares dropped 14p to 102p. The final dividend has also been cut by nearly two thirds from 9.5p gross to 3.57p, which gives a total of 7.14p gross compared with 12.85p in 1980. The yield is 7 per cent.

Mr Norman Housden, chairman, said that he did not feel it sound to draw heavily on previously undistributed profits to maintain a dividend rate. But he added that in light of profits arising from earlier periods and the reduction on borrowings,



Mr Norman Housden, chairman of Arlington Motor Holdings.

which fell by £400,000 to £3.5m, he felt justified in paying a final.

The damage to the group's

profits was in commercial vehicles where manufacturers were offering cash incentives to dealers to clear their stocks because of overcapacity.

These developments pushed the commercial vehicles turnover down from 50 per cent of the total a couple of years ago to 35 per cent last year and forced it into losses. The bus and coach operation was also badly affected by unemployment and the recession as well as the strength of sterling. Interest rates were added disincentive for potential purchasers, Mr Housden said. Arlington's own charges were £1.14m against £987,000.

But the group's auction business flourished and Arlington is now looking for an acquisition in this field. Contract hire and leasing also performed reasonably well.

Hampton Trust slips into loss

By Our Financial Staff

Hampton Trust, the property and mining company with Australian assets, made a pretax loss last year of £21,400 compared with a profit in the previous year of £57,079. The loss was caused chiefly by the cost of developing the Woodada natural gas field in Western Australia.

Sir Cecil Burney, the chairman, says the company is negotiating for a 3.5 per cent interest in the Woodada EP100 gas field in the Perth Basin. But although discussions with the Foreign Investment Review Board, the Commonwealth government body that oversees foreign investment in Australia, are at an advanced stage, he could not say when they might be concluded.

The accounts will show a special item of £126,000 set aside for the cost of the Woodada stake. Last year the company wrote off nearly £38,000 for costs incurred at Woodada.

Hampton also said that production from the six gas wells has located in Ohio should start before the end of 1981. Sir Cecil said he hopes the US\$320,000 (£170,000) invested in the wells should be paid back from production in 12 months. But the rate of return will fall after then.

Its partner in Ohio is Enertek Oil and Gas Corporation of Houston, Texas. Hampton has taken a 4.8 per cent stake in Enertek.

Hampton has a number of exploration contracts for its property around the gold-bearing province of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. Hampton's London properties are in the books at £1.5m, giving total net assets of £2.4m.

Allied Textile up slightly at £1.28m midway

Taxable profits of Allied Textile edged ahead from £1.26m to £1.28m in the six months to March 31, on turnover almost unchanged at £14.7m. The interim dividend was held at 4p gross.

The board says that profitability has been well sustained, despite the deep recession that continues to beset the industry. Other than in isolated and special situations, there is no general improvement in trading conditions.

The group continues to re-shape its trading policies and productive capacity so as to anticipate reduced and changing opportunities for business in textiles and clothing, in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Giltspur up 22 pc to £5.6m in record year

Giltspur, the industrial services group bought by Unigate in January after an unsuccessful bid from Transport Development, increased its pretax profits by 22 per cent to a record £5.6m in the year to March 31. Sales fell to £87.8m from £99.6m.

Before Unigate stepped in, Giltspur had started to reduce its motor trading side, which explains the drop in turnover, and helped to turn interest costs of £849,000 a year earlier into a £325,000 credit last year. The move left Giltspur with cash balances of £4.6m, against debts of £3.6m, at the year end.

On April 1, the remaining motor trade business was transferred to Unigate's Wincanton motors side. Now Giltspur is on the lookout for non capital-intensive acquisitions to add to its own service operations, notably for its Expo division which it wants to develop in the United States. America already produces two-fifths of the exhibition division's profit, which last year totalled £3.43m.

Freight and packaging made £1.26m while the specialist engineering side slipped from £1.02m to £771,000.

Profits from Giltspur this year could come out around £6m before tax, but most of that will be in the second half, always the better profit earner. At Richard Brewer, finance director, says first-half profits are on target so far.

Illingworth EGM

The board of Illingworth, Morris has now received a requisition for the holding of an extraordinary general meeting to consider the removal of three directors, including the chairman, from the board.

Mrs Pamela Mason, daughter of the group's founder and a near 50 per cent shareholder, has requisitioned the meeting.

BCA acquires caravan park

British Car Auction Group is paying £800,000 to Mr W. E. Riddy and Brian Bank Caravan, a company controlled by him and his immediate family, for a freehold caravan park, Brian Bank Caravan Park, near Bedford, with ancillary buildings. The land being acquired is about 35 acres.

Stocks will be bought at a valuation estimated at some £46,000 cash. Of the £800,000, £80,000 will be paid in cash and the balance in shares.

About 500,000 of the shares to be allotted will be placed with clients of BCA's brokers, at the same price as that at which the allotment is calculated.

Thorpac Group for USM

Thorpac Group, whose main business is distributing domestic deep freeze freezers and accessories, is coming to The Unlisted Securities Market next Tuesday.

A placing of 18.9 per cent of

Discount market

Period rates remained very firm ahead of today's MLK dividend. The Bank of England helped on a moderate scale. Houses were able to take secured balances at rates in the area of 11 per cent to 12 per cent over much of the day, though a fully firm market at the close found final balances commanding 12 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Market rates (day forward)	Market rates (3 months)
New York 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
London 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Amsterdam 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Brussels 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Copenhagen 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Dublin 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Frankfurt 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Hamburg 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Paris 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Rome 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Stockholm 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Switzerland 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Vienna 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01
Zurich 31.425-31.450	1.00-1.01

Effective exchange rate compared to 19

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, July 13. Dealings End, Today. § Clearance Day, July 24. Settlement Day, Aug 1.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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MARKET REPORTS

tsubishi down 2pc spite record sales

Tsubishi said in Tokyo yesterday that its consolidated net income slipped 2.3 per cent to 41,076m yen (about £24m), despite a 17 per cent rise in revenues to a record 14,835 billion yen, in the year to March 31.

Japan's largest trading company blamed the fall on heavier interest payments, increased operating expenses and foreign exchange losses in translating overseas profits into yen. The heavier interest payments were incurred mainly domestically.

Earnings per share eased to 36.17 yen from 39.04 yen, after an increase in the issued capital to 1,152m shares from 1,006m shares a year earlier.

Domestic revenues comprised the largest portion of revenues, 6,032 billion yen or 40.7 per cent, despite rising only 12.3 per cent from the year-earlier period. The domestic sales were led by sales of machinery, mainly power stations, and raw materials, particularly crude oil and naphtha.

Offshore transactions showed the fastest sales growth, 34.1 per cent, largely on sales of raw materials and foods, but comprised only 10.6 per cent of all revenues. Imports and exports combined to account for the remaining 48.7 per cent of all revenues. Imports rose by 16.6 per cent, while exports rose by 20.3 per cent.

MBB up but outlook tough

Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB), the West German defence and aerospace group, is worried about the medium-term outlook despite increasing 1980 earnings to DM50m (about £11m) from DM40m in 1979, Herr Gero Madelung, the chairman, said in Munich yesterday.

Herr Madelung said that uncertainty over the development of a new European tactical fighter to follow the multi-role Tornado, as well as expected declines in military helicopter and spacecraft projects over the next few years, would create serious problems for

MBB unless the company was awarded new aerospace contracts.

Herr Johannes Broschitz, who is in charge of finances, said that 1980 profit growth reflected the group's current financial high, but did not suffice to build up reserves for coming bad years when military and government contracts are expected to thin out. Profits as a percentage of sales have declined from 17 per cent in 1979, to 15.8 per cent in 1980, and 14.7 per cent in 1981. Sales in 1980 rose 27 per cent to 2,304m marks from 1,829m marks in 1979.

Wall Street

New York July 22—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed at a record low for the year with the Dow Jones industrial average off 9.08 to 324.86. The previous low of 321.57 was reached February 13.

The index was off 0.74 to 73.85 and the average price per

	July 22	July 21		July 20	July 19		July 18	July 17		July 16	July 15		July 14	July 13		July 12	July 11		July 10	July 9		July 8	July 7		July 6	July 5		July 4	July 3		July 2	July 1
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
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Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
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Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
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Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2
Alfred Chase	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat Lutz Beer	22 1/2	22 1/2	PGC Ind	22 1/2	22 1/2	Pat L					

